

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP
Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost
August 27, 2023

AS WE GATHER

Son of a pub owner and a cabinet maker by trade, Edward Mote was a nineteenth century Englishman who came to faith in Christ as an adult and then served the last two decades of his life as a parish pastor. Although Mote is said to have never lost his touch for building furniture, he discovered a new passion in his later years: writing hymns for Christians to sing. “My hope is built on nothing less Than Jesus’ blood and righteousness,” he wrote. “No merit of my own I claim But wholly lean on Jesus’ name. On Christ, the solid rock, I stand; All other ground is sinking sand” (LSB 575/576:1). The story is told that the first person with whom Mote shared these words was a friend who had fallen ill and was nearing the end of her life. Mote’s beautiful hymn, which Christ-followers like us continue to enjoy today, reminded God’s beloved that Christ Jesus alone is the solid foundation, the mighty fortress in whom she could trust. In life and in death, our hope is built on this rock, who offers for us nothing less than His own blood and righteousness.

✠ PREPARATION ✠

HYMN “Christ Is Our Cornerstone” (LSB – 912 all 3 verses)

Christ is our cornerstone,
With His true saints alone
On His great love
Of present grace

On Him alone we build;
The courts of heav’n are filled.
Our hopes we place
And joys above.

Here may we gain from heav’n
And may that grace, once giv’n,
Until that day
To endless rest

The grace which we implore,
Be with us evermore
When all the blest
Are called away.

Oh, then, with hymns of praise
Our voices we will raise
And thus proclaim
Both loud and long,

These hallowed courts shall ring;
The Three in One to sing
In joyful song,
That glorious name.

INVOCATION

(please stand)

Pastor: In the name of the Father and the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: That we may rest on Jesus and His unchanging grace, let us with repentant hearts confess our sins in the presence of God and of one another.

(We observe a moment of silence for personal prayers of confession.)

Pastor: How firm a foundation, O saints of the Lord, is laid for your faith in His excellent Word!

People: **Heavenly Father, Your Word tells us that we all have sinned and fall short of Your glory. By what we have done and by what we have failed to do, we have lived shaky lives that falter when we do not stand firm in You.**

Pastor: Rock of Ages, cleft for me, let me hide myself in Thee!

People: **Lord Jesus, have mercy upon us. You are the rock of ages in whom we find protection and deliverance.**

Pastor: On Christ, the solid rock, I stand; all other ground is sinking sand!

People: **Holy Spirit, enable us to trust the promises of Your Word, confident in the forgiveness of sins found in Christ Jesus, our solid rock. Amen.**

Pastor: Upon this your confession, I am blessed to proclaim the certainty of God's saving grace to all of you! In the stead and by the command of our Lord Jesus Christ, our mighty rock and fortress, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen.**

✠ WORD ✠

INTROIT

Pastor: But we will bless the LORD

People: **from this time forth and forevermore. Praise the LORD!**

Pastor: As for Me, I have set My King on Zion, My holy hill. I will tell of the decree:

People: **The LORD said to Me, "You are My Son; today I have begotten You."**

Pastor: Praise the LORD, all nations!

People: **Extol Him, all peoples!**

Pastor: For great is His steadfast love toward us,

People: and the faithfulness of the LORD endures forever. Praise the LORD!
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.
Pastor: But we will bless the LORD
People: from this time forth and forevermore. Praise the LORD!

KYRIE

Pastor: Lord, have mercy,
People: Lord, have mercy.
Pastor: Christ, have mercy,
People: Christ, have mercy.
Pastor: Lord, have mercy,
People: Lord, have mercy.

SALUTATION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.
People: And also with you.

PRAAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray. Almighty God, grant us to know Your Son, Jesus Christ, to be the rock upon whom our lives are built.
People: Help us rest securely in Your promises and find strength in Your mighty deliverance;
Pastor: through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
People: Amen. *(please be seated)*

OLD TESTAMENT READING: Isaiah 51:1-6

(“Look to the rock from which you were hewn.”)

“Listen to me, you who pursue righteousness, you who see the Lord: look to the rock from which you were hewn, and to the quarry from which you were dug. Look to Abraham your father and to Sarah who bore you; for he was but one when I called him, that I might bless him and multiply him. For the Lord comforts Zion; he comforts all her waste places and makes 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. Give attention

to me, my people, and give ear to me, my nation; for a law will go out from me, and I will set my justice for a light to the peoples. My righteousness draws near, my salvation has gone out and my arms will judge the peoples; the coastlands hope for me, and for my arm they wait. Lift up your eyes to the heavens, and look at the earth beneath; for the heavens vanish like smoke, the earth will wear out like a garment, and they who dwell in it will die in like manner; but my salvation will be forever, and my righteousness will never be dismayed.”

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

EPISTLE READING: Romans 11:33 - 12:8

(Do not be conformed; be transformed.)

33 Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are his judgments and how inscrutable his ways! 34 “For who has known the mind of the Lord, or who has been his counselor?” 35 “Or who has given a gift to him that he might be repaid?” 36 For from him and through him and to him are all things. To him be glory forever. Amen.

1 I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. 2 Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect. 3 For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. 4 For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, 5 so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another. 6 Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, in proportion to our faith; 7 if service, in our serving; the one who teaches, in his teaching; 8 the one who exhorts, in his exhortation; the one who contributes, in generosity; the one who leads, with zeal; the one who does acts of mercy, with cheerfulness.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

HOLY GOSPEL: Matthew 16:13-20

*(“On this rock I will build My church.”)
(please stand)*

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the sixteenth chapter.

People: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

13 Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that the Son of Man is?” 14 And they said, “Some say John the Baptist, others say Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.” 15 He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” 16 Simon Peter replied, “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.” 17 And Jesus answered him, “Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father who is in heaven. 18 And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. 19 I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.” 20 Then he strictly charged the disciples to tell no one that he was the Christ.!”

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise to You, O Christ.**

THE APOSTLES’ CREED

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

(please be seated)

HYMN: “In Christ Alone” (CCLI # 1280892) (all four verses)

In Christ alone my hope is found	He is my light my strength my song
This Cornerstone this solid Ground	Firm through the fiercest drought and storm
What heights of love what depths of peace	When fears are stilled when strivings cease
My Comforter my All in All	Here in the love of Christ I stand

In Christ alone who took on flesh
This gift of love and righteousness
Till on that cross as Jesus died
For every sin on Him was laid

Fullness of God in helpless babe
Scorned by the ones He came to save
The wrath of God was satisfied
Here in the death of Christ I live

There in the ground His body lay
Then bursting forth in glorious Day
And as He stands in victory
For I am His and He is mine

Light of the world by darkness slain
Up from the grave He rose again
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me
Bought with the precious blood of Christ

No guilt in life no fear in death
From life's first cry to final breath
No power of hell no scheme of man
Till He returns or calls me home

This is the power of Christ in me
Jesus commands my destiny
Can ever pluck me from His hand
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand

MESSAGE: "Everyone a Witness to the Gospel"

Matthew 16:13-16

OFFERING

If you are a **visitor** this morning, you are our guest. Please do not feel obligated to give as the offering plate is passed. The offering is an opportunity for **members** to practice faithful stewardship and to support the ministries of Christ's church. Also, a red booklet, the Friendship Register, will be passed down each row. Please record your presence with us today.

OFFERING SONG: "We Give Thee But Thine Own" (LSB 781 vv. 1-2)

(Please sing as the offering is presented at the Altar)
We give Thee but Thine own, Whate'er the gift may be;
All that we have is Thine alone, A trust, O Lord, from Thee.

May we Thy bounties thus As stewards true receive
And gladly, as Thou blessest us, To Thee our firstfruits give!

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

(please stand)

Pastor: Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs . . . Lord, in your mercy,

People: hear our prayer

Pastor: through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who has taught us to pray . . .

THE 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.

FOR THE CHURCH

Almighty God, grant to Your Church Your Holy Spirit and the wisdom that comes down from above, that Your Word may not be bound but have free course and be preached to the joy and edifying of Christ's holy people, that in steadfast faith we may serve You and, in the confession of Your name, abide unto the end; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

SALUTATION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

BENEDICTION

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

People: **Amen.** *(please be seated)*

HYMN "The Church's One Foundation" (LSB – 644 all 5 verses)

The Church's one foundation
She is His new creation
From heav'n He came and sought her
With His own blood He bought her,

Is Jesus Christ, her Lord;
By water and the Word.
To be His holy bride;
And for her life He died.

Elect from ev'ry nation,
Her charter of salvation:
One holy name she blesses,
And to one hope she presses

Yet one o'er all the earth;
One Lord, one faith, one birth.
Partakes one holy food,
With ev'ry grace endued.

Though with a scornful wonder
By schisms rent asunder,
Yet saints their watch are keeping;
And soon the night of weeping

Through toil and tribulation
She waits the consummation
Till with the vision glorious
And the great Church victorious

Yet she on earth has union
And mystic sweet communion
O blessed heav'nly chorus!
That we, like saints before us,

The world sees her oppressed,
By heresies distressed,
Their cry goes up, "How long?"
Shall be the morn of song.

And tumult of her war
Of peace forevermore
Her longing eyes are blest,
Shall be the Church at rest.

With God, the Three in One,
With those whose rest is won.
Lord, save us by Your grace
May see You face to face.

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

DISMISSAL

Pastor: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord!

People: **Thanks be to God.**

MESSIAH PRAYER REQUESTS . . .

Prayers for continued healing - Judy Beauford - Ed Mycock

For Family and Friends

Prayers for Steven Haberoth recovering at home from surgeries placing a pacemaker, replacing his aortic valve, and repairing an aortic aneurysm

Mario & Eve Betancourt requests prayers for ***Reese Richeson***, 16-year-old daughter of friends, undergoing treatment for brain cancer.

Donna Cifers requests prayers for her 89-year-old mother's health issues – ***Margaret Chamness***

Roger Winkelmann requests prayers for his sister, ***Linda*** trying new medicine for ***Parkinson's***.

Jim Minica offers thanks be to God for the health improvements for his sister, ***Linda Rose Sally Gutierrez Beltran*** asks for prayer for her husband ***Felix*** for salvation, deliverance from alcohol and restoration of their marriage.

For family discord, reconciliation, and healing

For Messiah's Learning Teams and Call Committee

Prayers for rescue for those in abusive relationships

We pray for discernment of for the reorganized SAPD Property Crimes department

Prayers for all those with physical, emotional, or other needs – your will be done.

Prayers for all who are lost to hear and receive Jesus' Gospel message.

We pray in Jesus's Holy Name, Amen.

AUGUST ALTAR FLOWERS

August 6th – Margaret Leachman – in honor of Russ's birthday

August 6th – David & Sharon Sattler – celebrating 48 years of marriage

August 13th – Bill & Mary Ann Eichman – celebrating 55 years of marriage

August 13th – Tony & Kathy Giardinelli – in honor of David's birthday

August 20th – Dan Cifers – blessing for Donna's Mother – Margaret Chamness

August 27th – Steve & Janet Haberoth – thanksgiving for God's blessings

August 27th – Brad Sanders – in honor of Laura's birthday

ANNOUNCEMENTS!

WELCOME . . . *Whoever you are . . . Wherever you have come from . . . we are so glad you are here! Your presence increases our joy as we praise our loving Savior together. If you are visiting with us today, we'd love to get to know you! Please don't forget to sign your name and fill in your contact information in the red booklets on the inside aisle!*

Pastor's Bible Study in the BEGIN Book - *Picking up with Page 62 Pastor will continue with The Gospel According to John "The Wedding at Cana."*

Mission Team *Today's the day! Directly after service today, the Mission Team will be presenting their recommendation to the congregation and asking for a vote on the Mission Statement. This shouldn't be a long meeting, so please make plans to stay and participate in this important next step in building our call package for a permanent pastor.*

Messiah's Kids Preschool - *Messiah's Kids Preschool welcomes children on August 28. Please remember that the Family Life Center will be locked at all times, and you will need to call Maurine or Gina to gain access. These phone numbers are posted on the main door. While at the Family Life Center, please do not prop doors open or allow entry without Maurine or Gina. Thank you for your cooperation and understanding while we keep the building a safe place for our friends to learn and grow with Jesus.*

Refurbishment Move In Date coming soon!! *Labor needed!! We will be asking for help to move furniture and equipment back into the church offices. If all goes well, we anticipate moving sometime in the first two weeks of September. We will be posting specific dates & times soon. Please email or call David Wendeborn if you can help.*

Upcoming Events in September – Detailed information can be found on MLC's website.

- **Sep. 9th – How Medicare Works & Protecting Yourself and Others from Financial Fraud and Scams Seminar** sponsored by LINC SA at Mt. Calvary and via Zoom at Messiah Lutheran Church from 9:00 am to noon. RSVP to lsanderscoach@gmail.com or Messiah's website.
- **Sep. 14th – Mark Giardinelli Birthday and Operation Christmas Child** packing event at Boerne Library from 1:00 to 3:00 pm
- **Sep. 15th – Friday Morning Ladies Bible Study** at 10:00 am studying the Book of Jude.
- **Sep. 16th – Adult Game Day** at 2:00 pm in the Family Life Center Fellowship Room
- **Sep. 19th - Hill Country Pregnancy Care Center's Annual Fundraising Gala** - Sue Theis will be taking your Reservations for this event this Sunday.
- **Sep. 21st – Ladies Day Out Trip to Camp Verde** from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm
- **Sep. 30th – Messiah's 5K Walk – Run** event at Old #9 Trail at Esser Road in Boerne from 7:30 to 10:30 am.

Junior Confirmation – *Pastor Lofgren is wondering if any of Messiah's families are interested in their children receiving Junior Confirmation instruction starting this Fall. If you have a child at least 9 years old, please contact the Office via phone (830) 755-4300 or email: mmaloy@messiahboerne.org.*

Issues, Etc. - *Christological, Creedal, Confessional... Issues, Etc., a radio talk show and podcast produced by Lutheran Public Radio. This week's teachings Hosted by LCMS Pastor Todd Wilkens include Biblical Archeology, From Calvinism to Lutheranism, Biblical Masculinity, Evangelism and more.*



On **THIS ROCK**
I will build **MY CHURCH**,
and the gates of hell shall
not prevail against it.

Matthew 16:18, ESV

MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Rev. Dr. Richard S. Lofgren, Pastor

Gina Husky, Director of Messiah's Kids Preschool

David Rhoads, Facilities Manager

Maurine Maloy, Administrative Assistant



Serving us Today – August 27, 2023

Elders: Allen Leitko & Larry Risley
Coffee: Janis & Joyce Meier
Treats: Joe & Verna Sorensen
Tellers: Anthony Sansone
Chancel Care: Kim & Maurine Maloy
Message: Pastor Richard Lofgren
Kid's Message: Pastor Richard Lofgren
Musician: Bob Shoaf
AV: Rutledge Family
Reader: Alana Kemmy
Ushers: Ernie Mazurek – Joe Sorensen – Mike Lang – Russ Leachman
Greeters: Kathy Rottman

Serving us Next Sunday – September 3, 2023

Elders: Bill Eichman & Roger Winkelmann
Coffee:
Treats:
Tellers: Anthony Sansone
Chancel Care: Kim & Maurine Maloy
Message: Pastor Richard Lofgren
Kid's Message: Pastor Richard Lofgren
Musician: Bob Shoaf
AV: David & Lorrie Wendeborn
Reader:
Ushers: Ernie Mazurek – Joe Sorensen – Mike Lang – Russ Leachman
Greeters:

Our Response to God Last Week

Worship Attendance: 81 | Sunday School: 29

July 2023 Contributions			
General Fund	\$44,176.20	Building Fund	\$2,490.00
Renovation Fund	\$550.00	Family Life Center	\$4,847.53