

# THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

## Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

*September 10, 2023*

### AS WE GATHER

The word mentor can be both a noun describing a trusted counselor or a verb meaning to guide someone in new learning. The word originally was the name of a person from classical literature: Mentor was a friend of the Greek hero Odysseus who was entrusted with the education of his son Telemachus. You may have had special mentors throughout your life. We are reminded that Jesus our Lord is our best and most devoted mentor. A well-loved hymn by German writer Sigismund von Birken begins with these words: “Let us ever walk with Jesus, follow His example pure” (LSB 685:1). Jesus is our merciful mentor who gently leads us day by day along the path that leads to eternal life. We follow gladly in His footsteps!

### ✠ PREPARATION ✠

### CALL TO WORSHIP Psalm 118:24

**Pastor:** This is the day the Lord has made.

**People:** **Let us rejoice and be glad in it!**

### HYMN “God Himself Is Present” (LSB – 907 3 verses)

God Himself is present: And with awe appear before Him. All within keep silence; He alone Is our God and Savior;	Let us now adore Him God is in His temple; Humbly kneel in deepest rev’rence. On His throne Praise His name forever!
God Himself is present: See the hosts the throne surrounding. Hear the hymn ascending, Bow Your ear Hear, O Christ, the praises	Hear the harps resounding; “Holy, holy, holy!” Songs of saints and angels blending. To us here: That Your Church now raises.
Fount of ev’ry blessing, Trusting only in Your merit.	Purify my spirit, Like the holy angels,

Worshiping before You,  
Let Your will  
Rule Your Church terrestrial

May I ceaselessly adore You.  
Ever still  
As the hosts celestial.

## INVOCATION

*(please stand)*

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

**People: Amen.**

Pastor: Praise is due to You, O God, in Zion,

**People: and to You shall vows be performed.**

Pastor: O You who hears prayer, to You shall all flesh come.

**People: When iniquities prevail against me, You atone for our transgressions.**

Pastor: Blessed is the one You choose and bring near, to dwell in Your courts!

**People: We shall be satisfied with the goodness of Your house, the holiness of Your temple!**

## CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

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

**People: Amen.**

Pastor: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

**People: But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

Pastor: Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

**People: Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. 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 justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

Pastor: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**People: Amen.**

✠ WORD ✠

## INTROIT Psalm 92:1-4; *antiphon*, v 5

Pastor: How great are your works, O LORD! Your thoughts are very deep!

It is good to give thanks to the LORD,

**People: to sing praises to your name, O Most High;**

Pastor: to declare your steadfast love in the morning,

**People: and your faithfulness by night,**

Pastor: to the music of the lute and the harp,

**People: to the melody of the lyre.**

Pastor: For you, O LORD, have made me glad by your work;

**People: at the work of your hands I sing for joy.**

**All: 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: How great are your works, O LORD! Your thoughts are very deep!

## 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.**

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray. O God, from whom all good proceeds,

**People: grant to us, Your humble servants, Your holy inspiration, that we may set our minds on the things that are right and, by Your merciful guiding, accomplish them; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.** *(please be seated)*

**OLD TESTAMENT READING: Ezekiel 33:7-9**

*(Ezekiel warns the wicked.)*

7 “So you, son of man, I have made a watchman for the house of Israel. Whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. 8 If I say to the wicked, O wicked one, you shall surely die, and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from his way, that wicked person shall die in his iniquity, but his blood I will require at your hand. 9 But if you warn the wicked to turn from his way, and he does not turn from his way, that person shall die in his iniquity, but you will have delivered your soul.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

**EPISTLE READING: Romans 13:1-10**

*(Paul reflects on the source of all authority.)*

1 Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God. 2 Therefore whoever resists the authorities resists what God has appointed, and those who resist will incur judgment. 3 For rulers are not a terror to good conduct, but to bad. Would you have no fear of the one who is in authority? Then do what is good, and you will receive his approval, 4 for he is God's servant for your good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for he does not bear the sword in vain. For he is the servant of God, an avenger who carries out God's wrath on the wrongdoer. 5 Therefore one must be in subjection, not only to avoid God's wrath but also for the sake of conscience. 6 For because of this you also pay taxes, for the authorities are ministers of God, attending to this very thing. 7 Pay to all what is owed to them: taxes to whom taxes are owed, revenue to whom revenue is owed, respect to whom respect is owed, honor to whom honor is owed. 8 Owe no one anything, except to love each other, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. 9 For the commandments, “You shall not commit adultery, You shall not murder, You shall not steal, You shall not covet,” and any other commandment, are summed up in this word: “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” 10 Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

**CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

**HOLY GOSPEL: Matthew 18:1-20**

*(Dealing with responding to sin in our relationships.)*

*(please stand)*

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

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

1 At that time the disciples came to Jesus, saying, "Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?"  
2 And calling to him a child, he put him in the midst of them 3 and said, "Truly, I say to you,  
unless you turn and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. 4 Whoever  
humbles himself like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven. 5 "Whoever receives one  
such child in my name receives me, 6 but whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in  
me to sin, it would be better for him to have a great millstone fastened around his neck and to be  
drowned in the depth of the sea. 7 "Woe to the world for temptations to sin! For it is necessary  
that temptations come, but woe to the one by whom the temptation comes! 8 And if your hand or  
your foot causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away. It is better for you to enter life crippled  
or lame than with two hands or two feet to be thrown into the eternal fire. 9 And if your eye causes  
you to sin, tear it out and throw it away. It is better for you to enter life with one eye than with  
two eyes to be thrown into the hell of fire. 10 "See that you do not despise one of these little ones.  
For I tell you that in heaven their angels always see the face of my Father who is in heaven. 12  
What do you think? If a man has a hundred sheep, and one of them has gone astray, does he not  
leave the ninety-nine on the mountains and go in search of the one that went astray? 13 And if he  
finds it, truly, I say to you, he rejoices over it more than over the ninety-nine that never went  
astray. 14 So it is not the will of my Father who is in heaven that one of these little ones should  
perish. 15 "If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault, between you and him alone.  
If he listens to you, you have gained your brother. 16 But if he does not listen, take one or two  
others along with you, that every charge may be established by the evidence of two or three  
witnesses. 17 If he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church. And if he refuses to listen even  
to the church, let him be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. 18 Truly, I say to you, whatever  
you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in  
heaven. 19 Again I say to you, if two of you agree on earth about anything they ask, it will be  
done for them by my Father in heaven. 20 For where two or three are gathered in my name, there  
am I among them."

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 “10,000 Reasons (Bless The Lord) – CCLI #6016351 – Jonas Myrin & Matt Redman**

*Bless the Lord O my soul O my soul  
Sing like never before O my soul*

*Worship His holy name  
I'll worship Your holy name Chorus*

The sun comes up it's a new day dawning  
Whatever may pass and whatever lies before me

It's time to sing Your song again  
Let me be singing when the evening comes

*Bless the Lord O my soul O my soul  
Sing like never before O my soul*

*Worship His holy name  
I'll worship Your holy name Chorus*

You're rich in love and You're slow to anger  
For all Your goodness I will keep on singing

Your name is great and Your heart is kind  
Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find

*Bless the Lord O my soul O my soul  
Sing like never before O my soul*

*Worship His holy name  
I'll worship Your holy name Chorus*

And on that day when my strength is failing  
Still my soul will sing Your praise unending

The end draws near and my time has come  
Ten thousand years and then forevermore

*Bless the Lord O my soul O my soul  
Sing like never before O my soul*

*Worship His holy name  
I'll worship Your holy name Chorus*

Worship Your holy name  
Sing like never before O my soul  
Worship Your holy name

Lord I'll worship Your holy name  
I'll worship Your holy name  
Worship Your holy name.

**MESSAGE: “Jesus’ Strategy for Winning**

**Matthew 18:15-20**

**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!

**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.**

**PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

*(please stand)*

Pastor: Merciful God, we humbly implore You to cast the bright beams of Your light upon Your Church that we, being instructed by the doctrine of the blessed apostles may walk in the light of Your truth and finally attain to the light of everlasting life; 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 “Let Us Ever Walk With Jesus” (LSB – 685 4 verses)**

Let us ever walk with Jesus,  
Through a world that would deceive us  
Onward in His footsteps treading,  
Full of faith and hope and love,  
Faithful Lord, with me abide;

Follow His example pure,  
And to sin our spirits lure.  
Pilgrims here, our home above,  
Let us do the Father's bidding.  
I shall follow where You guide.

Let us suffer here with Jesus  
Joy will follow all our sadness;  
Though today we sow no laughter,  
All discomforts that annoy  
Jesus, here I share Your woe;

And with patience bear our cross.  
Where He is, there is no loss.  
We shall reap celestial joy;  
Shall give way to mirth hereafter.  
Help me there Your joy to know.

Let us gladly die with Jesus.  
He will free us from destruction,  
Let us mortify all passion  
And the grave that shuts us in  
Jesus, here with You I die,

Since by death He conquered death,  
Give to us immortal breath.  
That would lead us into sin;  
Shall but prove the gate to heaven.  
There to live with You on high.

Let us also live with Jesus.  
That to life we may awaken.  
We are Your own living members;  
In Your presence constantly,  
Jesus, let me faithful be,

He has risen from the dead  
Jesus, You are now our head.  
Where You live, there we shall be  
Living there with You forever.  
Life eternal grant to me.

## **SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS**

## **DISMISSAL**

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

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

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## **MESSIAH PRAYER REQUESTS . . .**

### **Prayers for continued healing –**

***Judy Beauford - Ed Mycock - Steven Haberoth - Linda Fults***

### **For Family and Friends**

***Prayers for Rolf Schulz*** who is in the hospital.

***Prayers for Kathy Giardinelli's family*** mourning the loss of her brother Phil's wife Barbara.

***Rutledge Family*** requests prayers for Sister-in-Law **Heather Mulledy** battling breast cancer and Family friend **Linda Young** dealing with ALS.

***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**

***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.*

## **SEPTEMBER ALTAR FLOWERS**

September 3<sup>rd</sup> – Bill & Linda Dicke – celebrating 39 years of marriage

September 10<sup>th</sup> – Steve & Janet Haberoth – thanksgiving for God's blessings

September 11<sup>th</sup> – R.J. & Pam Poulk – celebrating 55 years of marriage

September 17<sup>th</sup> – Tony & Kathy Giardinelli – in honor of Mark's birthday

September 17<sup>th</sup> – Pam Poulk – in honor of R.J.'s birthday

September 24<sup>th</sup> – Larry Risley – in honor of Pam's birthday

September 24<sup>th</sup> – R.J. Poulk – in honor of Pam'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** - Pastor will continue with *The Gospel According to John*.

**Town Hall Meeting** – following worship services on Sun., Sep. 17<sup>th</sup> to review results from the Pastor Profile Survey.

**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](mailto:mmaloy@messiahboerne.org).

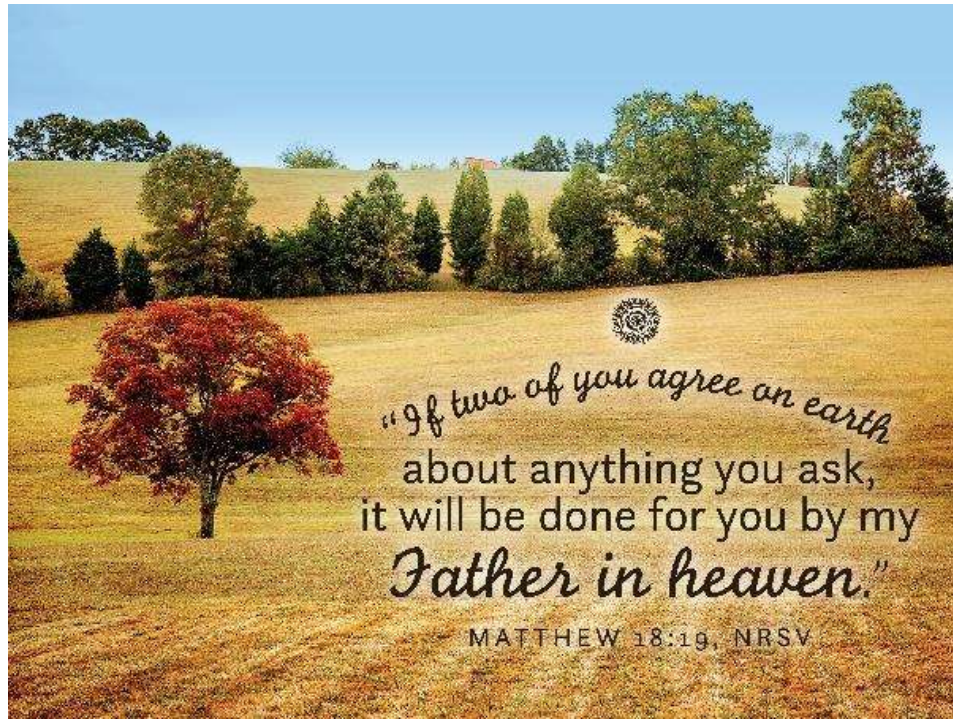
**THANK YOU to the Mighty Men and Women of Messiah!!!** Many hands made "light" work (kinda!) Wednesday morning. Lots of "heavy" lifting and up and down the stairs!! The church offices are moved back to the church and things that were in storage have been accumulated in the Narthex, Kitchen, and Nursery ready for organization teams.

**Food for the Poor** – is looking for a few more applicants for their Jamaica Mission Trip. Participants will be doing construction, visiting families, visiting an Angel's of Hope Children Home, visiting the disabled and feeding people. The deadline to apply is Sep. 25<sup>th</sup>. If interested go to Mission Trips at [foodforthe poor.org](http://foodforthe poor.org).

**Issues, Etc.** - Have your children or grandchildren ever asked you questions about Science & Faith; The Problem of Evil & Suffering; Sexuality & Identity; Heaven, Death & Dying; Relationships, Life Issues and Mental Health? *Issues, Etc.*, a radio talk show and podcast produced by Lutheran Public Radio in Collinsville, IL, has a series that can help you answer those questions. You can listen to the entire series on-demand at [issuesetc.org/kidshavequestions](http://issuesetc.org/kidshavequestions).

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

- Sep. 14<sup>th</sup> – Mark Giardinelli Birthday and Operation Christmas Child packing event at Boerne Library from 1:00 to 3:00 pm
- Sep. 15<sup>th</sup> – Friday Morning Ladies Bible Study at 10:00 am studying the Book of Jude.
- Sep. 16<sup>th</sup> – Adult Game Day at 2:00 pm in the Family Life Center Fellowship Room
- Sep. 19<sup>th</sup> - Hill Country Pregnancy Care Center's Annual Fundraising Gala - Sue Theis will be taking your Reservations for this event this Sunday.
- Sep. 21<sup>st</sup> – Ladies Day Out Trip to Camp Verde from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm
- Sep. 30<sup>th</sup> – Messiah's 5K Walk – Run event at Old #9 Trail at Esser Road in Boerne from 7:30 to 10:30 am.
- Oct. 8<sup>th</sup> – Dedication of Sanctuary at 3:00 pm as we give thanks to God for the gift of New Creation
- Oct 15<sup>th</sup> – Fellowship Committee is hosting a Potluck Dinner following Worship Service to Kick Off Operation Christmas Child



*"If two of you agree on earth  
about anything you ask,  
it will be done for you by my  
Father in heaven."*

MATTHEW 18:19, NRSV

## **MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH**

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[www.messiahboerne.org](http://www.messiahboerne.org)*

*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 – September 10, 2023**

Elders:	Bill Eichman & Roger Winkelmann
Coffee:	Janis & Joyce Meier
Treats:	Janis & Joyce Meier
Tellers:	Anthony Sansone
Chancel Care:	Kim & Maurine Maloy
Message:	Pastor Richard Lofgren
Kid's Message:	Pastor Richard Lofgren
Musician:	Bob Shoaf
AV:	Tony Giardinelli
Reader:	Maurice Doublett, III
Ushers:	Dennis Parker – Mike Stender – Tom Bibb – Tony Giardinelli
Greeters:	David & Sharon Sattler

**Serving us Next Sunday – September 17, 2023**

Elders:	Bill Eichman & Roger Winkelmann
Coffee:	Marilyn Mazurek
Treats:	Beth Leachman
Tellers:	Anthony Sansone
Chancel Care:	Kim & Maurine Maloy
Message:	Pastor Richard Lofgren
Kid's Message:	Pastor Richard Lofgren
Musician:	Bob Shoaf
AV:	Ernie & Marilyn Mazurek
Reader:	Sue Parker
Ushers:	Dennis Parker – Mike Stender – Tom Bibb – Tony Giardinelli
Greeters:	Sue Theis & Alana Kemmy

**Our Response to God Last Week**

**Worship Attendance: 81 | Sunday School: 29**

<b>August 2023 Contributions</b>			
<b>General Fund</b>	<b>\$42,992.08</b>	<b>Building Fund</b>	<b>\$2,590.00</b>
<b>Renovation Fund</b>	<b>\$15,400.00</b>	<b>Family Life Center</b>	<b>\$400.00</b>