

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

Fourteenth Sunday After Pentecost

September 3, 2023

AS WE GATHER

“Your words became to me a joy and the delight of my heart” (Jeremiah 15:16). The prophet Jeremiah did not praise God with such words because his life was super easy. No, Jeremiah rejoiced in the Lord even as his life had plenty of problems. Why such delight in difficulty? Surrounded by evil in this world, like Jeremiah, we cling to the God who is good, learning to trust His Word as the means by which we receive His deliverance from our enemies of sin and death. The living, active, delightful voice of our Savior guarantees His ongoing presence in our life. Because of this, we rejoice! As we gather in the presence of Jesus this day, let us echo Jeremiah’s anthem of praise: *“Your words became to me a joy and the delight of my heart!”*

✠ PREPARATION ✠

HYMN “I Lay My Sins on Jesus” (LSB 606 - 3 verses)

I lay my sins on Jesus,
He bears them all and frees us
I bring my guilt to Jesus
Clean in His blood most precious

The spotless Lamb of God;
From the accursèd load.
To wash my crimson stains
Till not a spot remains.

I lay my wants on Jesus;
He heals all my diseases;
I lay my griefs on Jesus,
He from them all releases;

All fullness dwells in Him;
My soul He does redeem.
My burdens and my cares;
He all my sorrows shares.

I rest my soul on Jesus,
His right hand me embraces;
I love the name of Jesus,
Like fragrance on the breezes

This weary soul of mine;
I on His breast recline.
Immanuel, Christ, the Lord;
His name abroad is poured.

✠ WORD ✠

INVOCATION

(please stand)

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

People: Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION *Jeremiah 15:20b*

Pastor: Since we are gathered to delight ourselves in the Word of God and to assemble as one family around His Table, let us with repentant hearts confess our sins before our heavenly Father, seeking His forgiveness in the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ. *(We pause for a moment of silent prayer and confession.)*

Pastor: O Lord our God, hear us as we pray:

People: We confess that we have not walked in Your faithfulness, turning away from You when we should be turning toward You.

Pastor: Father, forgive us.

People: Our love has not been genuine. We have not overcome evil with good.

Pastor: Have mercy upon us, Lord Jesus.

People: The grace You tell us to share with both our friends and our enemies is the mercy we also need.

Pastor: Renew us, Spirit of truth.

People: Remove our transgressions from us so that we may live as those who have been called by Your name, delighting in Your goodness to us in Christ. Amen.

Pastor: “I am with you to save you and deliver you,” declares the Lord. Through Jesus Christ—crucified, risen, and coming again—you have been delivered from your enemies of sin, death, and the devil. Keep His saving, steadfast love before your eyes and walk by faith in His promises. As one called to be your pastor and commissioned by Jesus to deliver the delight of His Word, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

INTROIT Psalm 37:5-7; antiphon: v.4

Pastor: Delight yourself in the LORD,

People: and He will give you the desires of your heart.

Pastor: Commit your way to the LORD;

People: trust in Him, and He will act.

Pastor: He will bring forth your righteousness as the light,

People: and your justice as the noonday.

Pastor: Be still before the LORD and wait patiently for Him;

People: fret not yourself over the one who prospers in his way, over the man who carries out evil devices!

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: Delight yourself in the LORD,

People: and He will give you the desires of your heart.

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. Almighty God, Your Son willingly endured the agony and shame of the cross for our redemption.

People: Grant us courage to take up our cross daily and follow Him wherever He leads.

Pastor: Delighting in Your goodness to us, we ask for this in the name of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: **Amen.**

(please sit)

OLD TESTAMENT READING: Jeremiah 15:15-21

("I am with you to save you and deliver you.")

15 O Lord, you know; remember me and visit me, and take vengeance on me on my persecutors. In your forbearance take me not away; know that for your sake I bear reproach. 16 Your words were found, and I ate them, and your words became to me a joy and the delight of my heart, for I am called by your name, O Lord, God of hosts. 17 I did not sit in the company of revelers, nor did I rejoice; I sat alone, because your hand was upon me, for you had filled me with indignation. 18 Why is my pain unceasing, my wound incurable, refusing to be healed? Will you be to me like a deceitful brook, like waters that fail? 19 Therefore thus says the Lord: "If you return, I will restore you, and you shall stand before me. If you utter what is precious, and not what is worthless, you shall be as my mouth. They shall turn to you, but you shall not turn to them. 20 And I will make you to this people a fortified wall of bronze; they will fight against you, but they shall not prevail over you, for I am with you to save you and deliver you, declares the Lord. 21 I will deliver you out of the hand of the wicked, and redeem you from the grasp of the ruthless."

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

EPISTLE READING: Romans 12:9-21

("Overcome evil with good.")

9 Let love be genuine. Abhor what is evil; hold fast to what is good. 10 Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor. 11 Do not be slothful in zeal, be fervent in spirit, serve the Lord. 12 Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer. 13 Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospitality. 14 Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. 15 Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. 16 Live in harmony with one another. Do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly. Never be wise in your

own sight. 17 Repay no one evil for evil, but give thought to do what is honorable in the sight of all. 18 If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. 19 Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, “Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.” 20 To the contrary, “if your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink; for by so doing you will heap burning coals on his head.” 21 Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

HOLY GOSPEL: Matthew 16:21-28

(please stand)

(Losing life and finding it in Christ.)

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

People: Glory to You, O Lord.

21 From that time Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things from the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. 22 And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, “Far be it from you, Lord! This shall never happen to you.” 23 But he turned and said to Peter, “Get behind me, Satan! You are a hindrance to me. For you are not setting your mind on the things of God, but on the things of man.” 24 Then Jesus told his disciples, “If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. 25 For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it. 26 For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world and forfeits his soul? Or what shall a man give in return for his soul? 27 For the Son of Man is going to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay each person according to what he has done. 28 Truly, I say to you, there are some standing here who will not taste death until they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom.”

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to You, O Christ.

THE NICENE CREED

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life ☩ of the world to come. Amen.

(please be seated)

HYMN: “Jesus, Thy Blood and Righteousness” - (LSB 563 - 6 verses)

Jesus, Thy blood and righteousness Midst flaming worlds, in these arrayed,	My beauty are, my glorious dress; With joy shall I lift up my head.
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Bold shall I stand in that great day, Fully absolved through these I am	Cleansed and redeemed, no debt to pay; From sin and fear, from guilt and shame.
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Lord, I believe Thy precious blood, Pleads for the captives' liberty,	Which at the mercy seat of God Was also shed in love for me.
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Lord, I believe, were sinners more Thou hast for all a ransom paid,	Than sands upon the ocean shore, For all a full atonement made.
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When from the dust of death I rise
This then shall be my only plea:

To claim my mansion in the skies,
Jesus hath lived and died for me.

Jesus, be endless praise to Thee,
For me, and all Thy hands have made,

Whose boundless mercy hath for me,
An everlasting ransom paid.

MESSAGE: “Double-Minded or Single-Hearted?”

Matthew 16:21-28

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: Into your hands, O Father, we commend all for who we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

People: **Amen**

OFFERING

(please be seated)

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!

✠ SACRAMENT ✠

PREFACE

(please stand)

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

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

People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Pastor: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who delivers us from death and the grave so that we may take up our cross and delight in You. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

SANCTUS

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of Sabaoth adored;

Heav'n and earth with full acclaim shout the glory of Your name.

Sing hosanna in the highest, sing hosanna to the Lord;

Truly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

THE PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth! Our hearts delight in You! Your words give us joy, assuring us of the victory of the cross, where Your Son conquered both sin and death. Gathered in the name of Jesus, we remember Your steadfast love, new to us every morning! Bowing our heads and our hearts before You, we honor and praise You, O Lord, rejoicing in the goodness You now prepare our hearts to receive. Hear us as we pray in Jesus' name and in the words He has taught us:

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.

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

PAX DOMINI

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: **Amen**

AGNUS DEI

O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,
O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,
O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,
Have mercy on us, Jesus Christ,

You take the sin of the world away;
Have mercy on us, Lord, we pray.
You take the sin of the world away;
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

(please be seated)

HYMN “Your Table I Approach” (LSB 628 – 6 verses)

Your table I approach;
Let not an unrepentant heart

Dear Savior, hear my prayer.
Prove hurtful to me there.

Lord, I confess my sins
A contrite heart is sure to find

And mourn their wretched bands;
Forgiveness at Your hands.

Your body and Your blood,
Are taken at Your table, Lord,

Once slain and shed for me,
In blest reality.

Search not how this takes place,
God can accomplish vastly more

This wondrous mystery;
Than what we think could be.

O grant, most blessèd Lord,
May not about this sacrament

That earth and hell combined
Raise doubt within my mind.

Oh, may I never fail
For Your true body and true blood,

To thank You day and night
O God, my peace and light.

HYMN: “Jesus, Sinners Doth Receive” (LSB 609 – 7 verses)

Jesus sinners doth receive;
Who in sin’s delusions live
Here is hope for all who grieve:

Oh, may all this saying ponder
And from God and heaven wander!
Jesus sinners doth receive.

We deserve but grief and shame,
Pardon, peace, and life proclaim;
Firmly in these words believe:

Yet His words, rich grace revealing,
Here our ills have perfect healing.
Jesus sinners doth receive.

Sheep that from the fold did stray
Weary souls that lost their way
In His arms that they may live:

No true shepherd e’er forsaketh;
Christ, the Shepherd, gently taketh
Jesus sinners doth receive.

I, a sinner, come to Thee
Savior, mercy show to me;
Let these words my soul relieve:

With a penitent confession.
Grant for all my sins remission.
Jesus sinners doth receive.

Oh, how blest it is to know:
It shall be as white as snow
For these words I now believe:

Were as scarlet my transgression,
By Thy blood and bitter passion;
Jesus sinners doth receive.

Now my conscience is at peace;
Christ hath purchased my release
Naught remains my soul to grieve:

From the Law I stand acquitted.
And my ev’ry sin remitted.
Jesus sinners doth receive.

Jesus sinners doth receive;
And when I this earth must leave,
Dying, still to Him I cleave:

Also I have been forgiven;
I shall find an open heaven.
Jesus sinners doth receive.

HYMN: “Thine the Amen, Thine the Praise” (LSB 680 – all 5 verses)

Thine the amen Thine the praise Alleluias angels raise
Thine the everlasting head Thine the breaking of the bread
Thine the glory Thine the story Thine the harvest then the cup
Thine the vineyard then the cup is lifted up lifted up.

Thine the life eternally Thine the promise let there be
Thine the vision Thine the tree All the earth on bended knee
Gone the nailing gone the railing Gone the pleading gone the cry
Gone the sighing gone the dying what was loss lifted high.

Thine the truly Thine the yes Thine the table we the guest
Thine the mercy all from Thee Thine the glory yet to be
Then the ringing and the singing Then the end of all the war
Thine the living Thine the loving evermore evermore.

Thine the kingdom Thine the prize Thine the wonder full surprise
Thine the banquet then the praise Then the justice of Thy ways
Thine the glory Thine the story Then the welcome to the least
Then the wonder all increasing at Thy feast at Thy feast.

Thine the glory in the night No more dying only light
Thine the river Thine the tree Then the Lamb eternally
Then the holy holy holy Celebration jubilee
Thine the splendor Thine the brightness only Thee only Thee.

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

(please stand)

Pastor: Let us pray. O God the Father, the source of all goodness, who in perfect love sent Your only-begotten Son into this world to deliver us, we delight in the mercy we have here received. Thank You for the sacred sharing of His body and blood and for the joy that is ours in Christ, even amid the difficulties of this life. As we have received, so may we give, extending to others the grace You have for all; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

BENEDICTION

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

People: Amen. *(please be seated)*

HYMN: “Lord, Whose Love through Humble Service” (LSB 848 – 4 verses)

Lord, whose love through humble service Bore the weight of human need,
Who upon the cross, forsaken, Offered mercy’s perfect deed,
We, Your servants, bring the worship Not of voice alone, but heart,
Consecrating to Your purpose Ev’ry gift that You impart.

Still Your children wander homeless; Still the hungry cry for bread;
Still the captives long for freedom; Still in grief we mourn our dead.
As, O Lord, Your deep compassion Healed the sick and freed the soul,
Use the love Your Spirit kindles Still to save and make us whole.

As we worship, grant us vision, Till Your love’s revealing light
In its height and depth and greatness, Dawns upon our quickened sight,
Making known the needs and burdens Your compassion bids us bear,
Stirring us to tireless striving, Your abundant life to share.

Called by worship to Your service, Forth in Your dear name we go,
To the child, the youth, the aged, Love in living deeds to show;
Hope and health, goodwill and comfort, Counsel, aid, and peace we give,
That Your servants, Lord, in freedom May Your mercy know and live.

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

For Family and Friends

Prayers for Police Officers Raul Chavez & Rhett Shoquist involved in a shooting in San Antonio last week plus 2 more Officers that were involved in another shooting on Wednesday

Rutledge Family requests prayers for Sister-in-Law Heather Mulledy battling with 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

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.

SEPTEMBER ALTAR FLOWERS

September 3rd – Bill & Linda Dicke – celebrating 39 years of marriage

September 10th – Steve & Janet Haberoth – thanksgiving for God's blessings

September 11th – R.J. & Pam Poulk – celebrating 55 years of marriage

September 17th – Tony & Kathy Giardinelli – in honor of Mark's birthday

September 17th – Pam Poulk – in honor of R.J.'s birthday

September 24th – Larry Risley – in honor of Pam's birthday

September 24th – 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 Sunday, September 17th to review results from the Pastor Profile Survey.

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. - How did the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod defend itself 50 years ago from a liberal approach to the Bible? *Issues, Etc.*, a radio talk show and podcast produced by Lutheran Public Radio in Collinsville, IL, recently interviewed several guests about the Lutheran battle for the Bible. You can listen to the entire series at your convenience at issuesetc.org/battleforthebible.



**“FOR I AM WITH YOU
TO RESCUE
AND SAVE YOU,”
DECLARES THE LORD.**

JEREMIAH 15:20, NIV

MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH

*9401 Dietz, Elkhorn
Boerne, Texas 78015
(830) 755-4300
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 3, 2023

Elders: Bill Eichman & Roger Winkelmann
Coffee: David Wendeborn
Treats: Lindy Eschenko
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: Pam Fields
Ushers: Allen Leitko – David Theis – Maurice Doublett – Harold Moore
Greeters: Lindy Eschenko

Serving us Next Sunday – 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: Allen Leitko – David Theis – Maurice Doublett – Harold Moore
Greeters: David & Sharon Sattler

Our Response to God Last Week

Worship Attendance: 81 | Sunday School: 24

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