

**Messiah Lutheran Church**  
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ZOOM ID # 94203026508 passcode - church

**We are glad you are worshiping with us!** If you are looking for a church home or if you would like a pastoral visit, let us know by giving your contact info to an usher or the Minister. **Our mission** *Living in God's grace, we reach out to invite & welcome all with God's Love.* **Our welcoming statement** *We welcome people of every age, color, culture and political persuasion, every sexual orientation and gender identity, socio-economic status and ability as we celebrate together our unity in Christ. Messiah is a Reconciling in Christ congregation.*

*According to our 2022-2023 Mission Action Plan:  
"In all we say and do we ask for God's guidance."*

## **Third Sunday after Epiphany January 21, 2024**

### Thanksgiving for Baptism

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight.

**Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family. Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom. At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit.**

By water and your word you claim us as daughters and sons, making us heirs of your promise and servants of all.

**We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life, and above all we praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ. Shower us with your Spirit, and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace, and love.**

To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

Hymn: "I Love to Tell the Story" ELW # 661, verses 1 & 3

1 I love to tell the story  
of unseen things above,  
of Jesus and his glory,  
of Jesus and his love.  
I love to tell the story,  
because I know it's true;  
it satisfies my longings  
as nothing else would do.

how pleasant to repeat  
what seems, each time I tell it,  
more wonderfully sweet!  
I love to tell the story,  
for some have never heard  
the message of salvation  
from God's own holy word. *[Refrain]*

*Refrain:*

I love to tell the story;  
'twill be my theme in glory  
to tell the old, old story  
of Jesus and his love.

3 I love to tell the story,  
for those who know it best  
seem hungering and thirsting  
to hear it like the rest.  
And when, in scenes of glory,  
I sing the new, new song,  
I'll sing the old, old story  
that I have loved so long. *[Refrain]*

2 I love to tell the story:

Greeting: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

Kyrie, p. 147 (please respond in singing)

Glory to God in the highest, p. 148 (please respond in singing)

Let us pray: **Almighty God, by grace alone you call us and accept us in your service. Strengthen us by your Spirit, and make us worthy of your call, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**

Choir

Children's Message

First Reading: Jonah 3:1-5, 10

Psalms 62:5-12

<sup>5</sup> For God alone my soul waits in silence, for my hope is from him.

<sup>6</sup> **He alone is my rock and my salvation,  
my fortress; I shall not be shaken.**

<sup>7</sup> On God rests my deliverance and my honor;  
my mighty rock, my refuge is in God.

<sup>8</sup> **Trust in him at all times, O people;  
pour out your heart before him; God is a refuge for us.**

<sup>9</sup> Those of low estate are but a breath;  
those of high estate are a delusion; in the balances they go up;  
they are together lighter than a breath.

<sup>10</sup> **Put no confidence in extortion,  
and set no vain hopes on robbery;  
if riches increase, do not set your heart on them.**

<sup>11</sup> Once God has spoken; twice have I heard this:  
that power belongs to God,

<sup>12</sup> **and steadfast love belongs to you, O Lord. For you repay to all  
according to their work.**

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 7:29-31

Gospel Acclamation, p. 151

A reading from the 1<sup>st</sup> chapter of Mark.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

The Word of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

Hymn: "Just as I Am, without One Plea" ELW # 592, verses 1, 2, & 4

1 Just as I am, without one plea,

O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

but that thy blood was shed for me,

and that thou bidd'st me come to thee,

2 Just as I am, though tossed about

with many a conflict, many a doubt,  
fightings and fears within, without,  
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

3 Just as I am, thou wilt receive,  
wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve;  
because thy promise I believe,

(APOSTLE'S CREED), p.105

Prayers of Intercession

Passing the Peace

Offertory and Offering Hymn: "We Are an Offering" ELW # 692

We lift our voices

We lift our hands

We lift our lives up to You

We are an offering

Lord use our voices

Lord use our hands

Lord use our lives they are Yours

We are an offering

All that we have

O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

4 Just as I am, thy love unknown  
has broken ev'ry barrier down;  
now to be thine, yea, thine alone,  
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

All that we are

All that we hope to be

We give to You

We give to You

We lift our voices

We lift our hands

We lift our lives up to You

We are an offering

We are an offering

Offertory Prayer: **Blessed are you, Holy One, for all good things come from you. In bread and cup you open heaven to us. Meet us at this table, that we receive what we seek and follow your Son, Jesus, in whose name we pray. Amen.**

Great Thanksgiving, p.152

Holy, Holy, Holy, p.153

Holy Communion: Let us proclaim the mystery of faith: **Christ has died! Christ has risen! Christ will come again!**

The Lord's Prayer

Lamb of God, p.154

Prayer after communion

Announcements

Blessing

Hymn: "Sent Forth by God's Blessing" ELW # 547

Sent forth by God's blessing,  
our true faith confessing,  
the people of God from this dwelling take leave.  
The service is ended,  
O now be extended  
The fruits of our worship in all who believe.  
The seed of the teaching,  
receptive souls reaching,  
shall blossom in action for God and for all.  
God's grace did invite us,  
and love shall unite us  
to work for God's kingdom and answer the call.

Go in peace. You are God's beloved children.  
**Thanks be to God.**

### **Announcements**

Please join us for coffee fellowship downstairs after worship!

### **Some things coming up**

Mondays - Morning Prayer at the parsonage resumes (7:15am)

-Dartball at 7:00pm at Messiah

Tuesdays - Bible Study 1:30pm

Tuesdays and Thursdays – Congregational Survey help sessions at 5:30

January 21 (TODAY)- Listening session regarding Port Wing partnership after worship and congregational surveys begin

January 23 – "The Chosen" study at 6:00pm

January 28 – Congregational Survey help session after worship

-Heaven's Helping Hands after church in tiled area

February 4 – Generosity Team leads worship

February 11 – Breakfast worship in the basement, come and see!

February 18 – Annual Meeting after worship

### **Today's Worship Leaders**

Ministers and Stewards: Everyone

SAM: Kristin Boland

Altar Guild: Cheryl Follis

Parish Assistant: Tracy Martinez

Council President: Tom Mitchell

Ushers: Sally Randell and Mary Westlund

Assistant: Cindi Orley

Choir Director: Tom Yost, Pianist: Owen Polifka

Zoom Asst: Michelle Lampson

**Thanks for faithful attendance.** Jan. 14, 59 in-house, 12 on Zoom

**Thank you for your generosity!** So far Messiah's Stained Glass Window Fund has received \$89,994.25 toward our goal of \$100,000.

**Prayers for Healing**

Karen Bayliss  
Abbie Cook-Blais  
Sarah Garrison  
Merrill Miranowski  
Ken Belanger  
Duane Dehn  
Dave Cook  
Verne Pratt  
Rob Gwinn  
Dick Follis  
Nancy Jonsson  
Keith Holm  
Marlyce Olson  
Sarah Olson

**Requested by**

Darlene Anderson  
Mary Cook  
Mary Cook  
Bev Dehn  
Marne Belanger  
Bev Dehn  
Lorraine Young  
Tom & Kathy Moran  
Ruth Carlson  
Bob Follis  
Diane Tetzner  
Barb Swenson  
Sarah Olson  
Sarah Olson

**Prayers for Comfort in grief**

Jerry Larsen

**Requested by**

Stephanie (Olson) Larsen

**Prayers**

- Comfort and love to all affected by violence
- Peaceful resolution to the wars in Ukraine and Israel
- Verne Pratt is at Court Manor in Ashland
- Wilma Lamken and Lois Osterberg are at The Oaks