

Messiah Lutheran Church
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ZOOM ID #898-0296-5268 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 information to an usher or the Pastor. **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."*

Jesus does not abandon his followers. Through the Holy Spirit, Jesus comes to abide with his disciples of every generation. As Pentecost draws near, we are reminded that the risen Christ dwells in us as the Spirit of truth. We receive this Spirit in baptism and pray that in our gathering around the Lord's Table the Spirit will transform us to be the body of the risen Christ in the world.

Sixth Sunday of Easter **May 14, 2023**

Prelude, Welcome & Announcements

P: Christ is risen **C: He is risen indeed!**

Thanksgiving for Baptism

Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, by whose hand we are given new birth. **Amen.**

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are welcomed, restored, and supported as citizens of the new creation. We give thanks for the gift of baptism. O God, you are the river of life, the everlasting wellspring. In mercy and might you freed us from death and raised us with Jesus. In baptismal waters our old life is washed away, and in them we are born anew. Glory to you for oceans, lakes, rivers and streams, for waters that wash us clean, quench our thirst, and nurture both crops and creatures.

Wash away our sin and all that separates us from you. Empower our witness to your resurrection. Strengthen our resolve in seeking justice for all. Where drought dries the earth, bring refreshment. Where despair prevails, grant hope. Where chaos reigns, bring peace. We ask this through Christ, who reigns forever. **Amen.**

Hymn: "Thy Holy Wings" ELW # 613

Thy holy wings, O Saviour, spread gently over me;
And let me rest securely, through good and ill in thee.
O be my strength and portion, my rock and hiding place,
And let my every moment, be lived within thy grace.

O let me nestle near thee, within thy downy breast;
Where I will find sweet comfort, and peace within thy nest.
O close thy wings around me, and keep me safely there,
For I am but a new-born, and need thy tender care.

O wash me in the waters, of Noah's cleansing flood.
Give me a willing spirit, a heart both clean and good.

O take into thy keeping, thy children great and small,
And while we sweetly slumber, enfold us, one and all.

Let us pray: **Dear God, our faithful companion, you promise to never leave us and to send your Spirit to guide us in wisdom and truth. Send us into the world to serve as mirrors that reflect and magnify your abundant, expansive and inclusive love. In your name we pray. Amen**

Choir

Children's Time

Acts 17:22-31

Psalm 66:8-20

⁸ Bless our God, O peoples; let the sound of his praise be heard,

⁹ **who has kept us among the living and has not let our feet slip.**

¹⁰ For you, O God, have tested us; you have tried us as silver is tried.

¹¹ **You brought us into the net; you laid burdens on our backs;**

¹² you let people ride over our heads; we went through fire and through water; yet you have brought us out to a spacious place.

¹³ **I will come into your house with burnt offerings;**

I will pay you my vows,

¹⁴ those that my lips uttered

and my mouth promised when I was in trouble.

¹⁵ **I will offer to you burnt offerings of fatted calves,**

with the smoke of the sacrifice of rams;

I will make an offering of bulls and goats.

¹⁶ Come and hear, all you who fear God,

and I will tell what he has done for me.

¹⁷ **I cried aloud to him, and he was extolled with my tongue.**

¹⁸ If I had cherished iniquity in my heart,

the Lord would not have listened.

¹⁹ **But truly God has listened;**

he has heard the words of my prayer.

²⁰ Blessed be God, who has not rejected my prayer

or removed his steadfast love from me.

*Gospel Reading: John 14:15-21

Sermon

Hymn: "Here I Am, Lord" ELW # 574

1 I, the Lord of sea and sky,

I have heard My people cry.

All who dwell in dark and sin,

My hand will save.

I who made the stars of night,

I will make their darkness bright.

Who will bear My light to them?

Whom shall I send?

Chorus

Here I am Lord, Is it I, Lord?

I have heard You calling in the night.

I will go Lord, if You lead me.
I will hold Your people in my heart.

Whom shall I send? (Chorus)

2 I, the Lord of snow and rain,
I have borne my people's pain.
I have wept for love of them,
they turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone,
Give them hearts for love alone.
I will speak My word to them

3 I, the Lord of wind and flame
I will tend the poor and lame.
I will set a feast for them,
My hand will save
Finest bread I will provide,
Till their hearts be satisfied.
I will give My life to them,
Whom shall I send? (Chorus)

Prayers of Intercession & Passing the Peace while sitting:

United in the hope and joy of resurrection, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

All the earth sings praises to you. Grant your care to the creatures, plants, and places that are suffering, and equip us to respond to their song. Make us agents of restoration and refreshment for all your beloved creation. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

You call all people of the world your children. Judge the nations justly, show mercy to all who are oppressed, and speak truth to power through your prophets. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Nurturing Lord, you sent your spirit to grant us peace. Make your presence known to those who feel abandoned or alone, and to all who are sick or grieving, especially Clarissa Olson and Floyd Moen. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

You hold us in your loving care. We pray for mothers and mother figures. Console all who long to be mothers, children estranged from their mothers, anyone grieving the death of a mother, and mothers who have lost a child. Support all for whom this day is difficult. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Almighty God, you give life and breath to all things. We give thanks for the apostle Matthias and all your saints, especially Eva Livingston and Michael Pedersen. Sustain us by your love until we join the saints in glory. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Rejoicing in the victory of Christ's resurrection, we lift our prayer and praise to you, almighty and eternal God; through Jesus Christ our risen Lord. **Amen.**

Offertory

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
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

Offering Prayer: **Be known to us, O Lord, in the breaking of the bread, as you were made known to the disciples. Receive these gifts, and the offering of our lives, that we may be your risen body in the world. Amen.**

Holy Communion
Choir

Blessing: People of God, you have been crucified with Christ, and it is no longer you who lives, but it is Christ who lives in you. May the peace of God which surpasses all understanding keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus. **Amen.** (Galatians 2:20)

*Hymn: "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling" ELW # 631, vs 1 & 2

1 Love divine, all loves excelling,
Joy of heav'n, to earth come down!

Fix in us thy humble dwelling,
all thy faithful mercies crown.

Jesus, thou art all compassion,
pure, unbounded love thou art;
visit us with thy salvation,
enter ev'ry trembling heart.

2 Breathe, oh, breathe thy loving Spirit
into ev'ry troubled breast;

let us all in thee inherit;
let us find thy promised rest.

Take away the love of sinning;
Alpha and Omega be;
end of faith, as its beginning,
set our hearts at liberty.

P: Go in peace! The Spirit sends us forth to serve.

C: Thanks be to God.

Announcements

Today's Worship Leaders

Ministers and Stewards: Everyone

Choir Director: Tom Yost

Altar Guild: Cheryl Follis

Parish Assistant: Tracy Martinez

Pianist: Owen Polifka

Usher: Tim Cook

Asst. Liturgist: Cindi Orley

Pastor: Nancy Hanson

Zoom Asst: Michelle Lampson

Thank you for your faithful attendance.

May 7, 83 in-house, 14 on Zoom.

Thank you for your generosity! So far Messiah's Stained Glass Window Fund has received \$74,213 toward our goal of \$100,000.

Women of all ages study & fellowship gather at 6:00 pm. We meet two Tuesdays each month to discuss *The Chosen*. Come join us even if you haven't come before. Next meeting is May 23.

Messiah pre city-wide garage sale is on June 3. The second garage sale is on the day of the Washburn city-wide sale, June 17th. We need items, people to help set up, work the floor and people to help remove unsold items on the 17th. Call Bob Leis to let him know you can help or have items. 715-373-0187

Vacation Bible School June 12th – 16th, 9:00 AM – noon, noon lunch, at Good Shepherd ELCA, 311 13th St W is Ashland, for kids that have completed 4K through 6th. Sign up at www.goodshepherdashland.com

Bethesda Lutheran Church in Bayfield is housing a Russian family who needs temporary housing while some construction issues are being repaired. Call 715 779 5611 in case you can help.

Prayers for Healing

Michelle Lampson
Bill Luckenbill
Floyd Moen
Clarissa Olson

Requested by

Lorraine Young
Cheryl Follis
Bev Dehn
Lorraine Young

Prayers for Comfort in grief

Rosie Bodin
Emily Breidenbach
Hunter Scheel
Michael Pedersen
Eva Livingston

Requested by

Pastor
Bishop Laurie Skow-Anderson
Bishop Laurie Skow-Anderson
Karen Novachek
Tracy Martinez

Prayers

- Comfort and love to all affected by gun violence
- Comfort for all affected by earthquakes in Syria and Turkey
- Peaceful resolution regarding the Russian invasion of Ukraine
- Verne Pratt is at Court Manor in Ashland
- Wilma Lamken is at The Oaks

Bible Study, Tues., 1:30 pm. The group is studying care of creation.

GIFT stands for Generations in Faith Together Meet at 5:30pm starting with a meal. All ages welcome. Our year end celebration is on May 17 at Memorial Park or the church if it is too cold or rainy.

Dianne Heapy's 76th birthday is May 20. Dianne would love to hear from you! Dianne Heapy, 2850 Market Drive #323, Little Canada, MN 55117 or call her at (651) 269-7162

New Member Sunday is May 21, 8:30 am. So far our new members include Cole & Shannon, Ollie, Nigel and Emil Miller along with Tina, Alta and Ana Sopiwnik. Call Pastor at 373-5378 or 209-1100 to set a time to visit about membership at Messiah.

Adventure Women- of any age welcome to meet at Messiah 1:00 pm on May 21. Contact Jana Lindh at 651-308-7472 if any questions. New people are always welcome.