

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."*

In these days between Ascension and Pentecost, we gather with the disciples in the upper room, waiting for the Spirit to transform the church around the world. In today's gospel Jesus prays for his followers and for their mission in his name. Amid religious, social, and economic divisions, we seek the unity Jesus had with his Father. Made one in baptism, we go forth to live our faith in the world, eager for the unity God intends for the whole human family.

Seventh Sunday of Easter **May 21, 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: "Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying" ELW # 752

**Lord, listen to your children praying,
Lord, send your Spirit in this place;
Lord, listen to your children praying,
send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace.
Hum a verse first, then sing.**

Let us pray: **O God of glory, you Son Jesus Christ suffered for us and ascended to your right hand. Unite us with Christ and each other in suffering and in joy, that all the world may be drawn into your bountiful presence, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen**

Choir

Children's Time

Acts 1:6-14

1 Peter 4:12-13: 5:6-11 The Message translation

4¹²⁻¹³ Friends, when life gets really difficult, don't jump to the conclusion that God isn't on the job.

Instead, be glad that you are in the very thick of what Christ experienced. This is a spiritual refining process, with glory just around the corner.

5⁶⁻⁷ So be content with who you are, and don't put on airs. God's strong hand is on you; he'll promote you at the right time. Live carefree before God; he is most careful with you.

8-11 Keep a cool head. Stay alert. The Devil is poised to pounce, and would like nothing better than to catch you napping. Keep your guard up. You're not the only ones plunged into these hard times. It's the same with Christians all over the world. So keep a firm grip on the faith. The suffering won't last forever. It won't be long before this generous God who has great plans for us in Christ—eternal and glorious plans they are!—will have you put together and on your feet for good. He gets the last word; yes, he does.

*Gospel Reading: John 14:15-21

Sermon

Hymn: "One Bread, One Body" ELW # 496

One bread, one body, one Lord of all, one cup of blessing which we bless.

And we, though many, throughout the earth, we are one body in this one Lord.

Gentile or Jew, servant or free, woman or man no more.

One bread, one body, one Lord of all, one cup of blessing which we bless.

And we, though many, throughout the earth, we are one body in this one Lord.

Many the gifts, many the works, one in the Lord of all.

One bread, one body, one Lord of all, one cup of blessing which we bless.

And we, though many, throughout the earth, we are one body in this one Lord.

Grain for the fields, scattered and grown, gathered to one for all.

One bread, one body, one Lord of all, one cup of blessing which we bless.

And we, though many, throughout the earth, we are one body in this one Lord.

Reception of new members: Cole & Shannon, Ollie, Nigel and Emile Miller along with Tina, Alta and Ana Sopiwnik

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.

God of harmony, as you drew your son to your side, you draw us to you and unite us with the planet and one another. Weave your church together in a web of mutual love for the sake of the world. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

As your Spirit hovered over the waters of creation, so your Spirit hovers over all that you have made. Bless the water that sustains the planet and grant wisdom to use it wisely. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

You empower your people with the fire of your Spirit. Challenge activists and organizers, teachers and politicians, and all in leadership to speak a message of peace and justice. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

You care for all your children. Show your steadfast love to those suffering isolation, especially exiles, refugees, or prisoners. Break the chains of all held fast by systemic oppression of any kind. Comfort all who are afraid or suffering from illness, especially Clarissa Olson, Floyd Moen, Bill Luckenbill, and Michelle Lampson. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Guide the congregation's leaders as they seek your will. We pray for our staff and council. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

You raise your saints to new life in Christ. We give you thanks for Eva Livingston, Michael Pedersen, and all your saints who have given us glimpses of your redeeming love. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Rejoicing in the victory of Christ's resurrection, we lift our prayers 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: *Go Now and Pass It On*

May the Lord walk beside us,

As we leave this quiet place,

For the Lord will always guide us,

If we walk in the light of his grace.

May we feel God's love around us,

As it keeps us faithful and strong,

For the peace of God surrounds us,

And now we must pass it on.

Go now and pass it on.

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: Kelly Beirl

Parish Assistant: Tracy Martinez

Pianist: Owen Polifka

Usher:

Asst. Liturgist: Diane Tetzner

Pastor: Nancy Hanson

Zoom Asst: Michelle Lampson

Thank you for your faithful attendance.

May 14, 47 in-house, 9 on Zoom.

Thank you for your generosity! So far Messiah's Stained Glass Window Fund has received \$75,213 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 hosts a Russian family in need of temporary housing during construction. Call 715 779 5611 in case you can help.

Prayers for Healing

Bill Luckenbill

Floyd Moen

Clarissa Olson

Dan Harvey

Requested by

Cheryl Follis

Bev Dehn

Lorraine Young

Pastor

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.