



**MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH**

*May 10, 2026*

*Pastor Ben Cherland*

**Welcome to Messiah Lutheran Church**  
Sixth Sunday of Easter | May 10, 2026

*Please be aware that our services are live-streamed. All participating adults and children appear on camera. If you'd prefer not to be filmed, there are seats along the wall in front of the Tech Booth that will keep you off camera. For Communion, simply remain in your seats and Pastor Ben will come to serve you.*

**GATHERING**

**Thanksgiving for Baptism**

Refreshed by the resurrection life we share in Christ, let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

We thank you, risen Christ, for these waters  
where you make us new,  
leading us from death to life, from tears to joy.  
We bless you, risen Christ, that your Spirit comes to us  
in the grace-filled waters of rebirth,  
    like rains to our thirsting earth,  
    like streams that revive our souls,  
    like cups of cool water shared with strangers.  
Breathe your peace on your church when we hide in fear.  
Clothe us with your mercy and forgiveness.  
Send us companions on our journey as we share your life.

Make us one, risen Christ, in love and mission.  
Cleanse our hearts of all division.  
Shower us with the life we have in you.  
To you be given all praise, with the Holy Spirit,  
    in the glory of God, now and forever. **Amen.**

***Gathering Hymn ELW 408 Come Thou Almighty King***

**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.**

# This is the Feast

*Refrain* S122



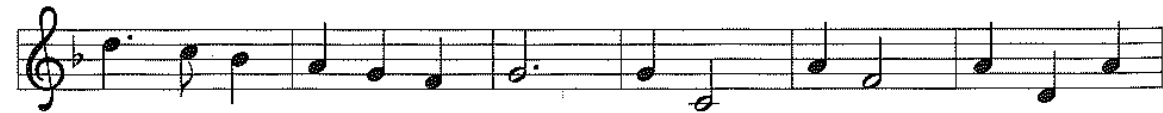
This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God. Al - le -



lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo - ple of God. Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and



strength, and hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.

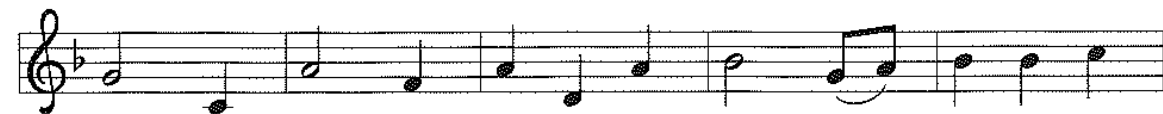
*Refrain*



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God. Al - le -



lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and join in the



hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry, and



might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

*Final refrain*

This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God,  
 for the Lamb who was slain has be - gun his reign.  
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

**Prayer of the Day**

**Almighty and ever-living God, you hold together all things in heaven and on earth. In your great mercy receive the prayers of all your children, and give to all the world the Spirit of your truth and peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.  
 Amen.**

**WORD**

**Children Sermon**

**First Reading: Acts 17:22-31**

*In Athens, Paul faces the challenge of proclaiming the gospel to Greeks who know nothing of either Jewish or Christian tradition. He proclaims that the “unknown god” whom they worship is the true Lord of heaven and earth who will judge the world with justice through Jesus, whom God has raised from the dead.*

<sup>22</sup> Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, “Athenians, I see how extremely spiritual you are in every way. <sup>23</sup> For as I went through the city and looked carefully

at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, ‘To an unknown god.’ What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. <sup>24</sup> The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, <sup>25</sup> nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. <sup>26</sup> From one ancestor he made all peoples to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, <sup>27</sup> so that they would search for God and perhaps fumble about for him and find him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us. <sup>28</sup> For ‘In him we live and move and have our being’; as even some of your own poets have said,

‘For we, too, are his offspring.’

<sup>29</sup> “Since we are God’s offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold or silver or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. <sup>30</sup> While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, <sup>31</sup> because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.”

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **Psalm: Psalm 66:8-20**

*Bless our God, you peoples; let the sound of praise be heard. (Ps. 66:8)*

<sup>8</sup> Bless our God, you peoples;

let the sound of praise be heard.

<sup>9</sup> **Our God has kept us among the living  
and has not allowed our feet to slip.**

<sup>10</sup> For you, O God, have tested us;  
you have tried us just as silver is tried.

<sup>11</sup> **You brought us into the net;  
you laid heavy burdens upon our backs.**

<sup>12</sup> You let people ride over our heads; we went through fire and water,  
but you brought us out into a place of refreshment.

<sup>13</sup> **I will enter your house with burnt offerings  
and will pay you my vows—**

<sup>14</sup> those that I promised with my lips  
and spoke with my mouth when I was in trouble.

- <sup>15</sup> I will offer you burnt offerings of fatlings with the smoke of rams;  
I will give you oxen and goats.**
- <sup>16</sup> Come and listen, all you who believe,  
and I will tell you what God has done for me.
- <sup>17</sup> I called out to God with my mouth,  
and praised the Lord with my tongue.**
- <sup>18</sup> If I had cherished evil in my heart,  
the Lord would not have heard me;
- <sup>19</sup> but in truth God has heard me  
and has attended to the sound of my prayer.**
- <sup>20</sup> Blessed be God, who has not rejected my prayer,  
nor withheld unfailing <sup>l</sup> love from me.

### **Second Reading: 1 Peter 3:13-22**

*The author of 1 Peter encourages Christians to remain faithful even in the face of defamation and persecution. In baptism we are made clean to act in accordance with what is right.*

<sup>13</sup> Now who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good? <sup>14</sup> But even if you do suffer for doing what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear, and do not be intimidated, <sup>15</sup> but in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you, <sup>16</sup> yet do it with gentleness and respect. Maintain a good conscience so that, when you are maligned, those who abuse you for your good conduct in Christ may be put to shame. <sup>17</sup> For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God's will, than to suffer for doing evil. <sup>18</sup> For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit, <sup>19</sup> in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, <sup>20</sup> who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight lives, were saved through water. <sup>21</sup> And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you—not as a removal of dirt from the body but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, <sup>22</sup> who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Gospel Acclamation

A - le - lu - ya, a - le - lu - ya. A - le - lu - ya, a - le - lu - ya.  
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

A - le - lu - ya, a - le - lu - ya. El Se - ñor re - su - ci - tó.  
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Christ is ris - en, ris' n in - deed.

The musical score consists of two systems. Each system has a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The key signature is B-flat major (two flats). The first system contains the first two phrases of the acclamation. The second system contains the final phrase and the beginning of the next section.

## Gospel: John 14:15-21

The holy gospel according to John

### Glory to you, O Lord

*In final words to his disciples on the night of his arrest, Jesus encourages obedience to his commandments and speaks of the Spirit, who will be with them forever.*

[Jesus said to the disciples:] <sup>15</sup> “If you love me, you will keep my commandments. <sup>16</sup> And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. <sup>17</sup> This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him because he abides with you, and he will be in you.

<sup>18</sup> “I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. <sup>19</sup> In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. <sup>20</sup> On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. <sup>21</sup> They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me, and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them.”

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Sermon**

**Hymn of the Day *ELW 398 Holy Spirit, Truth Divine***

**NICENE CREED**

**We believe in one God,**

**the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,**

**the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father.**

**Through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation**

**he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary  
and became truly human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the Scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,**

**who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.  
who has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.**

**We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins.**

**We look for the resurrection of the dead,**

**and the life of the world to come. Amen**

## Prayers of Intercession

With the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, let us pray for the church, those in need and all of God's creation.

*Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.***

Knowing that the Holy Spirit intercedes for us, we offer these prayers and the silent prayers of our hearts in the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ. **Amen**

## Peace

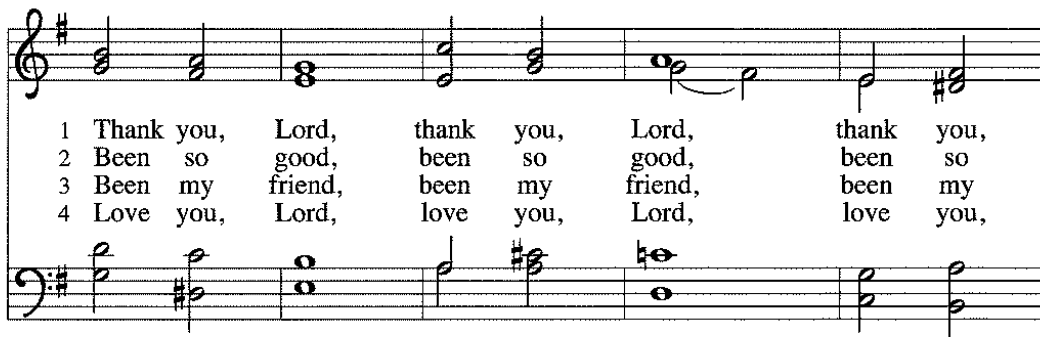
The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

## MEAL

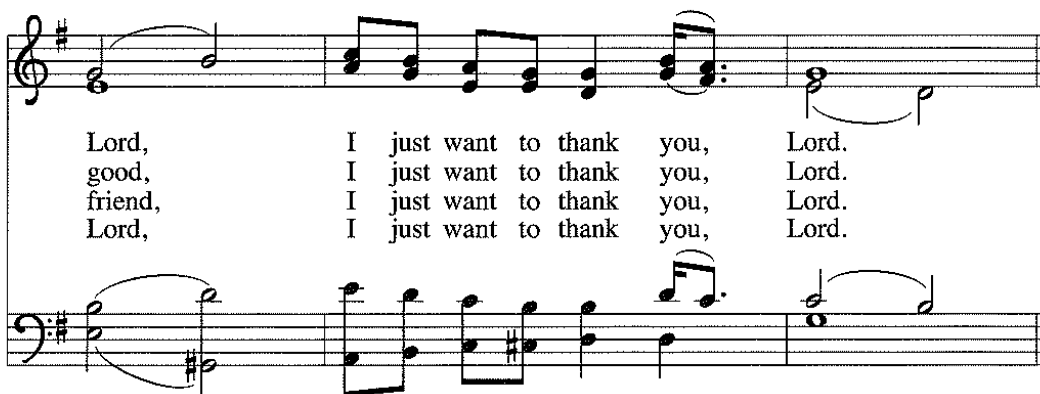
## Offering

### Thank You, Lord

1092



1 Thank you, Lord, thank you, Lord, thank you,  
2 Been so good, been so good, been so  
3 Been my friend, been my friend, been my  
4 Love you, Lord, love you, Lord, love you,



Lord, I just want to thank you, Lord.  
good, I just want to thank you, Lord.  
friend, I just want to thank you, Lord.  
Lord, I just want to thank you, Lord.

Text: Traditional  
Music: Traditional

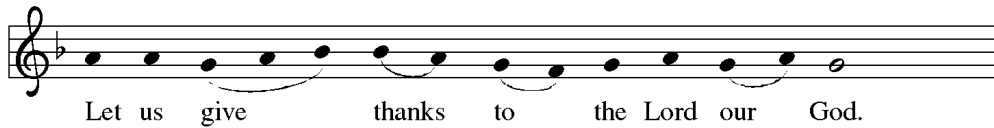
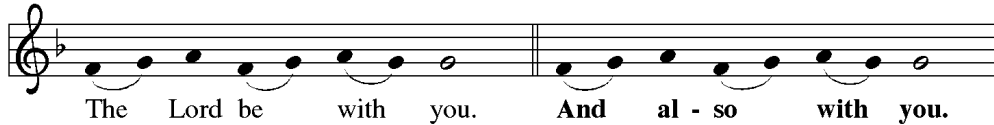
THANK YOU, LORD  
3 3 3 7

## Offering Prayer

Merciful God, accept the fruits of our labor, gathered to give you glory. You have set a table before us, a glimpse of that great day when we will hunger and thirst no more. Nourish us with the body and blood of Jesus, that goodness and mercy may follow us and bless the world you love. In the name of Jesus, **Amen.**

## Great Thanksgiving

### Dialogue



### Preface (*Pastor*)

# Holy, Holy, Holy

San - to, san - to, san - to, oh Dios del u - ni - ver - so:  
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord God of might and mer - cy,

. . . lle-nos es-tán el cie - lo y la tie - rra de tu glo - ria.  
your glo - ry fills all heav-en and earth. . . . You are ho - ly, God.

Ben - di - to el que vie - ne en nom - bre del Se - ñor. . . .  
. . . Bless - ed be the Sav - ior, the one who comes in your name.

Ho - san - na en el cie - lo. San - to e - res, oh Dios.  
Ho - san - na in the high - est. You are ho - ly, God.

Text: Traditional; English text, hymnal version  
Music: Argentine traditional  
English text © 2020 Augsburg Fortress

ARGENTINE SANTO  
Irregular

## **Thanksgiving at the Table**

### **The Lord's Prayer**

**Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those  
who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours,  
now and forever. Amen.**

### **Invitation to Communion**

### **Communion**

# In This Feast of Love

962

*Tässä pöydässä*

*Täs - sä pöy - däs - sä,* *täs - sä*  
 1 In this feast of love, in this  
 2 In this bread and wine, in this  
 3 Grant us peace, O Lord, grant us

*pöy - däs - sä* *syn - ti - sil - le*  
 feast of love, Lord, you share your  
 bread and wine, you have prom - ised,  
 peace, O Lord; fill us with the

*it - se - si an - nat,* *Ju - ma - lan Ka - rit - sa!*  
 blood and your bod - y, Je - sus, Lamb of God.  
 Lord, to be with us, Lamb . . of God div - ine.  
 joy of your Spir - it, ev - er - liv - ing Word.

## Communion Hymn *ELW 781 Children of the Heavenly Father*

### Prayer After Communion

Holy One, through this meal you have made your home among us and are making all things new. Send us now to speak peace to anxious hearts, to love our enemies, and to bring your healing to the nations. In the name of Jesus, **Amen.**

## SENDING

### **Blessing**

May our Glorious God grant you a spirit of wisdom to know and to love the risen Lord Jesus. The God of life, Father, (+) Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

**Sending Hymn *ELW 449 We Know That Christ is Raised***

### **Dismissal**

Alleluia! Christ is risen! **Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

Go in peace. Share the good news. **Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

## Delving Into the Bible

**Philippians 4:13** I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.

Over 20 years ago, when I was going through a divorce this verse sustained me because it was a very low time in my life and the Lord helped me get through each and every day and has been ever since. *Victoria Kittle*

## Announcements

On May 4 many Messiah volunteers packed up and boxed 94 quilts being sent to crisis areas in the US and around the world. Each quilt took about 10 hours to create. The packers spent an hour each. John and Brooke taped the 14 boxes together. Each box held 6 or 7 quilts, and each box was labeled and weighed. The weight totaled about 300 pounds. Then the boxes were hoisted into Julie Lindgren's pick up and will be driven to American Lutheran Church this Saturday morning. These boxes will be transported to a collection warehouse in Minnesota

via a semi which will also collect more Lutheran World Relief quilts from other Lutheran churches across Montana and further east along the route. Altogether the Lutheran World Relief quilt effort here at Messiah took about 1000 volunteer hours. THANK YOU TO EVERYONE.

Thank you to all who participated in leading worship today, including: Readers, Ushers, Communion Assistants, and Tech Booth Attendants. If you'd like to participate in leading worship, speak to Martha Crofts - there is always a need for more faces in these roles.

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**The Special Offering  
For May is  
Christikon**

## PRAYER REQUESTS

For prayer requests, contact the church office at 406-446-2430 or [redlodgemessiah@gmail.com](mailto:redlodgemessiah@gmail.com) or write your requests in the Prayer request book with specific information and permission from the person you are adding.

The people of Messiah are praying for

Claudia B, Hannah Gonzales, Dolly Koski, Rick and Sandy Koski, Jim Kyner, Mary Lair, Lois Miller, Misty Milligan, Chandra Rameriz, Carlos Ramalho, Sadie Sceva, Guynema Terry, Josh Winter, and Judy Yasi

The unspoken prayer requests of our congregation.

**Messiah Lutheran Church**  
**912 Lower Continental Dr, P.O. Box 1330**  
**Red Lodge, MT 59068**  
**[redlodgemessiah@gmail.com](mailto:redlodgemessiah@gmail.com), 406-446-2430**  
**Administrative Assistant Hours**  
**Monday – Thursday, 11:00 am – 3:00 pm**

In an effort to make Messiah comfortable and welcoming for everyone, we ask that you refrain from using strong personal scents or perfumes. Thank you.

*Live by faith . Share Christ's Love . Be a Voice for Hope*