



MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH

May 17, 2026

Pastor Ben Cherland

Welcome to Messiah Lutheran Church
Seventh Sunday of Easter | May 17, 2026

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 392 Alleluia! Sing to Jesus

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



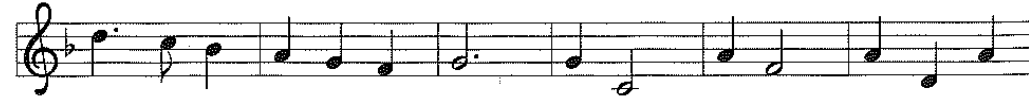
This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God. Al - le -



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

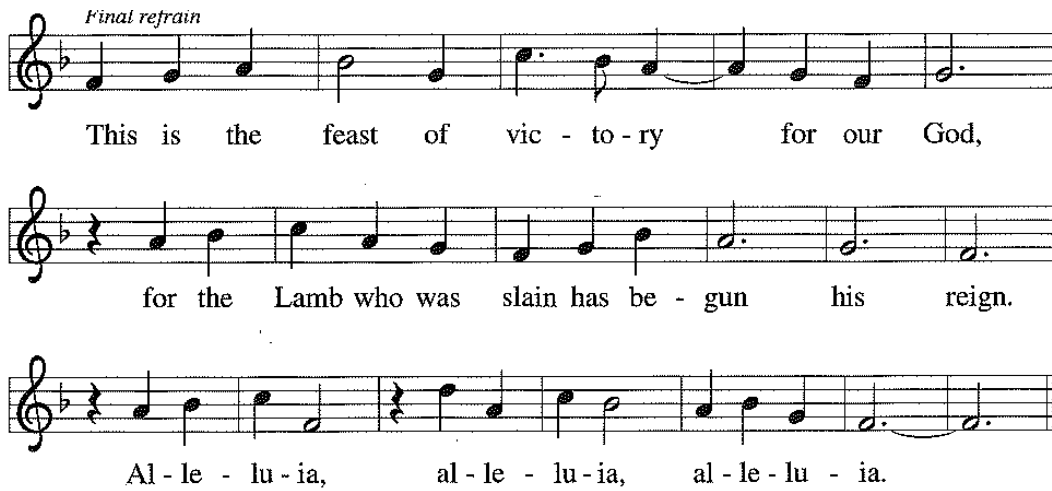


hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry, and



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

O God of glory, your 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.

WORD

Children Sermon

Acts 1:6-14

Today's reading is part of the introduction to the narrative of the outpouring of the Spirit on Pentecost. These verses tell of the risen Lord's conversation with his disciples on the eve of his ascension, in which he promises that they will receive the power of the Holy Spirit.

⁶ When [the apostles] had come together, they asked [Jesus], "Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?" ⁷ He replied, "It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. ⁸ But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my

witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”⁹ When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight.¹⁰ While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them.¹¹ They said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.”

¹² Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a Sabbath day’s journey away.¹³ When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying: Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James.¹⁴ All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35

Sing to God, who rides upon the clouds. (Ps. 68:4)

¹ Let God arise, and let God’s enemies be scattered;
let those who hate God flee.

² **As smoke is driven away, so you should drive them away;
as the wax melts before the fire, so let the wicked perish at the presence of
God.**

³ But let the righteous be glad and rejoice before God;
let them also be merry and joyful.

⁴ **Sing to God, sing praises to God’s name; exalt the one who rides the clouds;
I Am is that name, rejoice before God!**

⁵ In your holy habitation, O God,
you are a father to orphans, defender of widows;

⁶ **you give the solitary a home and bring forth prisoners into freedom;
but the rebels shall live in desert places.**

⁷ O God, when you went forth before your people,
when you marched through the wilderness,

⁸ **the earth quaked, and the skies poured down rain, at the presence of God,
the God of Sinai,**

at the presence of God, the God of Israel.

⁹ You sent a bountiful rain, O God;

you restored your inheritance when it languished.

¹⁰ **Your people found their home in it;**

in your goodness, O God, you have made provision for the poor.

³² Sing to God, O kingdoms of the earth;

sing praises to the Lord.

³³ **You ride in the heavens, O God, in the ancient heavens;**

you send forth your voice, your mighty voice.

³⁴ Ascribe power to God,

whose majesty is over Israel; whose strength is in the skies.

³⁵ **How wonderful you are in your holy places, O God of Israel,**

giving strength and power to your people! Blessed be God!

1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11

Our faith in Christ does not make us immune from the scorn of others. Nevertheless, we are to resist the designs of evil when we experience disparagement from others because we trust God's grace will strengthen and guide us.

¹² Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that is taking place among you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. ¹³ But rejoice insofar as you are sharing Christ's sufferings, so that you may also be glad and shout for joy when his glory is revealed. ¹⁴ If you are reviled for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the spirit of glory, which is the Spirit of God, is resting on you.

^{5:6} Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God, so that he may exalt you in due time. ⁷ Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you. ⁸ Discipline yourselves; keep alert. Like a roaring lion your adversary the devil prowls around, looking for someone to devour. ⁹ Resist him, steadfast in your faith, for you know that your brothers and sisters in all the world are undergoing the same kinds of suffering. ¹⁰ And after you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, support, strengthen, and establish you. ¹¹ To him be the power forever and ever. Amen.

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 lines of lyrics. The second system contains the last two lines of lyrics. The piano accompaniment features a steady eighth-note bass line and chords in the right hand.

The holy gospel according to John
Glory to you, O Lord

Gospel: John 17:1-11

On the night before his crucifixion, Jesus prays to his heavenly Father, asking that those who continue his work in this world will live in unity.

¹ After Jesus had spoken these words [to his disciples,] he looked up to heaven and said, “Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, ² since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. ³ And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent. ⁴ I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. ⁵ So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed.

⁶ “I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. ⁷ Now they know that everything you have given me is from you, ⁸ for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you, and they have believed that you sent me. ⁹ I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. ¹⁰ All mine are yours, and yours are mine, and

I have been glorified in them. ¹¹ And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one.”

The gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Hymn of the Day *ELW 482 I Come With Joy!*

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.

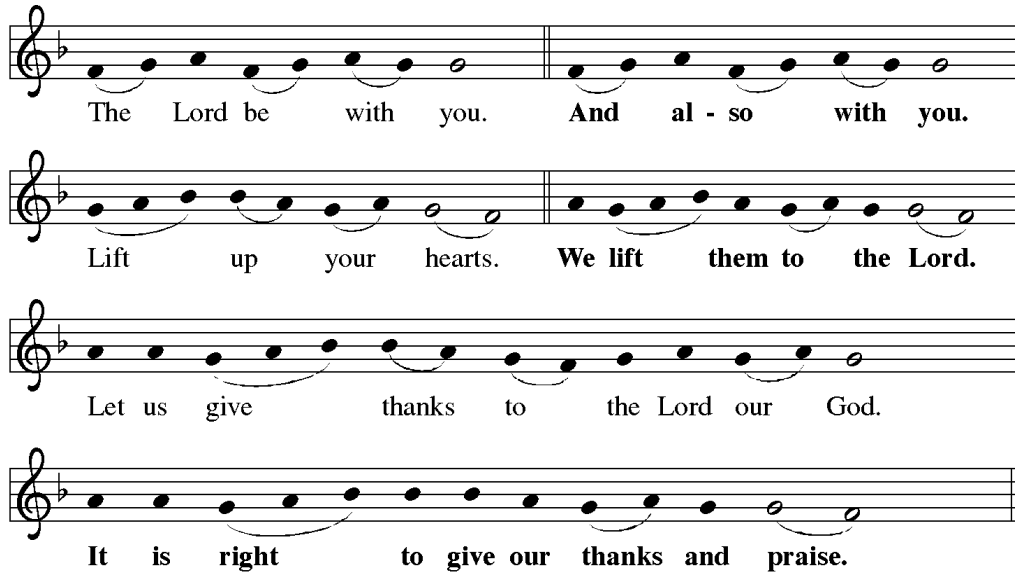
Text: Traditional
 Music: Traditional

THANK YOU, LORD
 3 3 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



The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

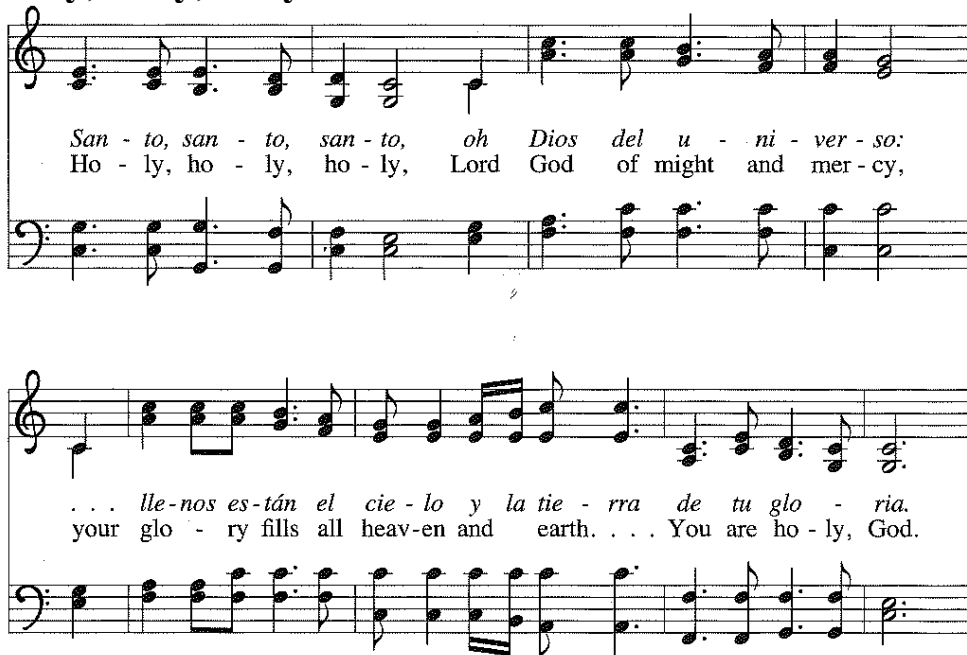
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

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

Tässä pöydässä

962

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.

748

Bind Us Together

Refrain
F

Dm

Gm

Bind us to - geth - er, Lord, bind us to - geth - er with cords that

can - not be bro - ken. Bind us to - geth - er, Lord,

bind us to - geth - er, Lord; bind us to - geth - er in love.

1 There . . is on - ly one God. There . . is on - ly one King.
2 You are the fam - ly of God. You are the prom - ise di - vine.

There . . is on - ly one Bod - y; that . . is why we can sing;
You are God's cho - sen de - sire, you are the glo - rious new wine.

Refrain

Text: Bob Gillman, b. 1946
 Music: Bob Gillman, b. 1946
 © 1977 Thankyou Music, admin. (in Western Hemisphere) Integrity's Hosanna! Music

BIND US TOGETHER
 6776 and refrain

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

May the God of Hope Go with Us

SENDING

Dios de la esperanza

984



¡Dios de la es - pe - ran - za, da - nos go - zo y paz!
May the God of hope go with us ev - 'ry day,



Al mun - do en cri - sis, ha - bla tu ver - dad.
to a world in need with news of joy and peace.



Dios de la jus - ti - cia, mán - da - nos tu luz,
May the God of jus - tice speed us on our way,



luz y es - pe - ran - za en la os - cu - ri - dad.
bring - ing light and hope to ev - 'ry land and race.



O - re - mos por la paz, can - te - mos
Pray - ing, let us work for peace; sing - ing, share our



de tu a - mor. Lu - che - mos por la paz,
joy with all; work - ing for a world that's new,



fie - les a ti, Se - ñor.
faith - ful when we hear Christ's call.

Dismissal

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

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

Announcements

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.

Looking Ahead – May 31 is Rogation Sunday when we will be worshipping with the Calvary Episcopal congregation and the Red Lodge UCC congregation at Hank and Linda Tuell's Ranch. Rogation begins at 10AM, we gather outdoors and ask that everyone bring a camp chair, bottle of water/beverage that they enjoy, a potluck dish to share, and dress for the weather. We will continue to watch the weather and if needed, arrange a rain backup location. Directions to the ranch will be shared before the date.

**The Special Offering
For May is
Christikon**

PRAYER REQUESTS

For prayer requests, contact the church office at 406-446-2430 or 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, Donna Downing, Hannah Gonzales, Dolly Koski,
Rick and Sandy Koski, Jim Kyner,
Mary Lair, Lois Miller, Misty Milligan, Bob Pollock,
Carlos Ramalho, Sadie Sceva, Guynema Terry,
Josh Wilker, Josh Winter, and Judy Yasi

The unspoken prayer requests of our congregation.

Messiah Lutheran Church
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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