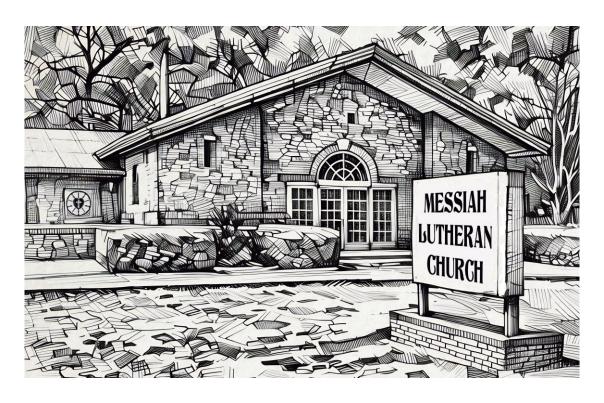
# Messiah Lutheran Church

## VALDOSTA, GEORGIA

500 Baytree Road – <u>messiahluth500@gmail.com</u> Office: 229-244-0143 Pastor's Cell: 404-951-6336

> Pastor Stephen Wareham MessiahVLDPastor@gmail.com

## SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 28<sup>TH</sup>, 2025



"We have found the Messiah."

John 1:41b

## **WELCOME VISITORS!**

We are pleased to meet you and have you visit us today! Please sign our Guest Book, located in the church entryway (Narthex), as well as the attendance sheet, which can be found in the red folder in each pew. Please let us know how we can assist you in any way.

- **RESTROOMS** are located in the Narthex.
- **QUIET BAGS** are available in the Narthex for older children. We also offer a children's bulletin for ages 3-6 and ages 7-12.
- QUIET/CALMING ROOM and a changing table are located near the Fellowship Hall (through the accordion doors behind the choir).
- <u>INVITATION TO COMMUNION</u> The Sacrament of Holy Communion is offered to all baptized and prepared Christians who believe Christ is truly present with us in this meal. Trusting in the promises of his Word, "—given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins," they intend to grow in faith by the power of the Holy Spirit working through this means of grace toward a more committed life with Jesus and His Church.
- RECEIVING COMMUNION Please extend your hand to receive the bread. Wine is offered from the Chalice or individual cups. Grape juice (center ring, lighter color) is offered for those who choose not to receive wine. After the Communion Assistant follows with the Chalice, place your empty cup on the communion rail rack. Children not yet prepared for the Sacrament may come forward for a blessing "that, living in the covenant of their Baptism and in communion with the Church, they may lead godly lives until the day of Jesus Christ."

## • OPPORTUNITIES FOR CHRISTIAN GROWTH

Sundays at 9:00 am: Adult Bible Study in the Pine Tree House.

Sundays at 9:30 am: Sunday School: Grades 4th & 5th in the Pine Tree House.

Sundays at 9:15 am: Sunday School: Grades 6<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> in the **Pine Tree House**.

Tuesdays at 10:00 am: Pastor's Bible Study in the Pine Tree House.

Tuesday 6:00 pm: Pastor's Men's Potluck Bible Study in the Pine Tree House.



## SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST DIVINE SERVICE SETTING ONE

The Mission of Messiah Lutheran is to grow in our relationship with God through worship, education, and service, while sharing Christ's peace and fellowship with all.

#### AS WE GATHER

"Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord, O my soul! I will praise the Lord as long as I live; I will sing praises to my God while I have my being." Psalm 146:1-2

"Praise the Lord!" is a common refrain throughout the Psalms, and for good reason. Our Gospel reading today gives us Jesus' parable of the rich man, who lives in earthly luxury, and Lazarus, the beggar suffering at his gates. But upon their death, their roles are reversed; Lazarus is comforted in Heaven while the rich man suffers in hell, begging for the luxury of a single drop of water. Praise the Lord for the gift of His Son, Jesus Christ, without whom we would all suffer as the rich man does. But because of Jesus Christ we will all join Lazarus and Abraham and all believers in the comfort of Heaven and eternal life with God our Father! Praise the Lord indeed!!

## PRELUDE & PERSONAL DEVOTION (Quiet Please)

#### **+CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION+**

Stand

All may make the sign of the cross in remembrance of their Baptism.

#### INVOCATION

- $\blacksquare$  In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

EXHORTATION LSB 151

- **P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
- But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for reflection on God's Word and self-examination.

CONFESSION OF SINS LSB 151

P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

ABSOLUTION LSB 151

- Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

#### SHARING OF THE PEACE:

Please extend the hand of fellowship to your neighbors with the words: "The peace of the Lord."



THERE IS GREAT GAIN in GODUNESS COMBINED with CONTENTMENT

#### +SERVICE OF THE WORD+

#### ENTRANCE HYMN





#### INTROIT

Psalm 119:73-75, 77; antiphon: v. 76

Let your steadfast love comfort me according to your promise to your servant. Your hands have made and fashioned me; give me understanding that I may learn your commandments.

Those who fear you shall see me and rejoice, because I have hoped in your word. I know, O LORD, that your just decrees are righteous, and that in faithfulness you have afflicted me.

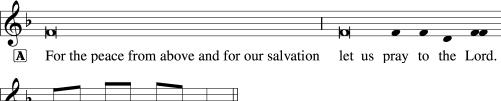
Let your mercy come to me, that I may live; for your law is my delight.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

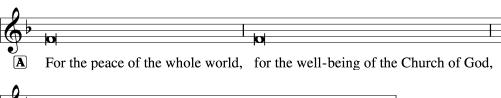
Let your steadfast love comfort me according to your promise to your servant.

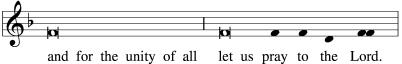
A In peace let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer - cy.





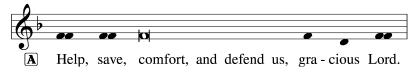




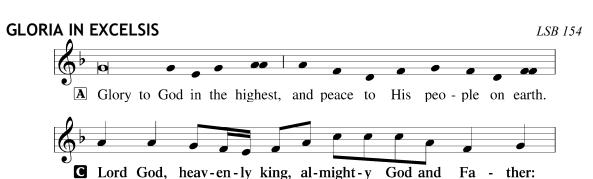














#### SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY



## P Let us pray.

O God, You are the strength of all who trust in You, and without Your aid we can do no good thing. Grant us the help of Your grace that we may please You in both will and deed; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Sit

## **OLD TESTAMENT READING**

Amos 6:1-7

#### Woe to Those at Ease in Zion

<sup>1</sup>"Woe to those who are at ease in Zion, and to those who feel secure on the mountain of Samaria, the notable men of the first of the nations, to whom the house of Israel comes!

<sup>2</sup>Pass over to Calneh, and see, and from there go to Hamath the great; then go down to Gath of the Philistines. Are you better than these kingdoms? Or is their territory greater than your territory,

<sup>3</sup>O you who put far away the day of disaster and bring near the seat of violence? <sup>4</sup>"Woe to those who lie on beds of ivory and stretch themselves out on their couches, and eat lambs from the flock and calves from the midst of the stall, <sup>5</sup>who sing idle songs to the sound of the harp

and like David invent for themselves instruments of music, <sup>6</sup>who drink wine in bowls and anoint themselves with the finest oils, but are not grieved over the ruin of Joseph! <sup>7</sup>Therefore they shall now be the first of

those who go into exile, and the revelry of those who stretch themselves out shall pass away."

- **A** This is the Word of the Lord.
- **C** Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE 1 Timothy 6:6–19

<sup>6</sup>Now there is great gain in godliness with contentment, <sup>7</sup>for we brought nothing into the world, and we cannot take anything out of the world. <sup>8</sup>But if we have food and clothing, with these we will be content. <sup>9</sup>But those who desire to be rich fall into temptation, into a snare, into many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. <sup>10</sup>For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evils. It is through this craving that some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pangs.

Fight the Good Fight of Faith

<sup>11</sup>But as for you, O man of God, flee these things. Pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, steadfastness, gentleness. <sup>12</sup>Fight the good fight of the faith. Take hold of the eternal life to which you were called and about which you made the good confession in the presence of many witnesses. <sup>13</sup>I charge you in the presence of God, who gives life to all things, and of Christ Jesus, who in his testimony before Pontius Pilate made the good confession, <sup>14</sup>to keep the commandment unstained and free from reproach until the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>15</sup>which he will display at the proper time—he who is the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings and Lord of lords, <sup>16</sup>who alone has immortality, who dwells in unapproachable light, whom no one has ever seen or can see. To him be honor and eternal dominion. Amen.

<sup>17</sup>As for the rich in this present age, charge them not to be haughty, nor to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches, but on God, who richly provides us with everything to enjoy. <sup>18</sup>They are to do good, to be rich in good works, to be generous and ready to share, <sup>19</sup>thus storing up treasure for themselves as a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of that which is truly life.

- **A** This is the Word of the Lord.
- **C** Thanks be to God.

Stand





HOLY GOSPEL Luke 16:19–31

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the sixteenth chapter.

Glory to You, O Lord.

#### The Rich Man and Lazarus

<sup>19</sup>[Jesus said:] "There was a rich man who was clothed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. <sup>20</sup>And at his gate was laid a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, <sup>21</sup>who desired to be fed with what fell from the rich man's table. Moreover, even the dogs came and licked his sores. <sup>22</sup>The poor man died and was carried by the angels to Abraham's side. The rich man also died and was buried, <sup>23</sup> and in Hades, being in torment, he lifted up his eyes and saw Abraham far off and Lazarus at his side. <sup>24</sup>And he called out, 'Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus to dip the end of his finger in water and cool my tongue, for I am in anguish in this flame.' <sup>25</sup>But Abraham said, 'Child, remember that you in your lifetime received your good things, and Lazarus in like manner bad things; but now he is comforted here, and you are in anguish. <sup>26</sup>And besides all this, between us and you a great chasm has been fixed, in order that those who would pass from here to you may not be able, and none may cross from there to us.' 27 And he said, 'Then I beg you, father, to send him to my father's house—<sup>28</sup> for I have five brothers—so that he may warn them, lest they also come into this place of torment.' <sup>29</sup>But Abraham said, 'They have Moses and the Prophets; let them hear them.' <sup>30</sup>And he said, 'No, father Abraham, but if someone goes to them from the dead, they will repent.' <sup>31</sup>He said to him, 'If they do not hear Moses and the Prophets, neither will they be convinced if someone should rise from the dead.""

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

#### CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

### 686 COME, THOU FOUNT OF EVERY BLESSING



#### NICENE CREED

I believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

I 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; by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was made man. 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.

I 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 is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. I believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. I acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life + of the world to come. Amen.

#### PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

- Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

  Lord of life, You provide us with daily bread in abundance. Preserve us from the worship of idleness and love of leisure lest we misuse Your gifts to our ruin. Foster in us contentment, righteousness, godliness, faith, love, steadfastness and gentleness. Lord, in Your mercy,
- **C** hear our prayer.
- P O Lord, as You once gave Moses and the prophets so that people might hear Your Word, continue to provide pastors and other laborers to make Your Gospel known among the nations. Preserve those who currently serve within Your Church, and raise up more workers to labor in the harvest. Lord, in Your mercy,
- **C** hear our prayer.
- Father in heaven, preserve our homes from idols and sins of idleness. Bless fathers and mothers as they catechize their children, that generations to come

might faithfully guard their hearts and rejoice in Your gifts. Lord, in Your mercy,

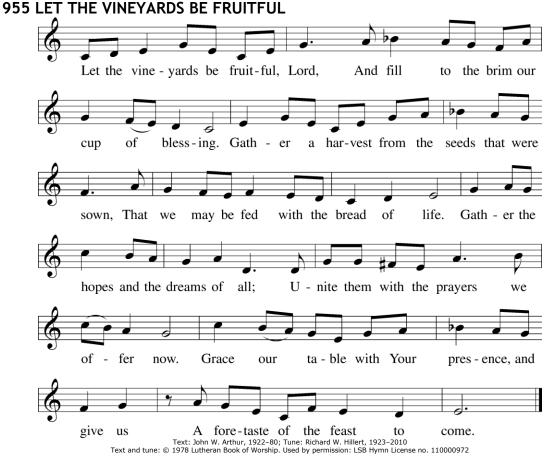
- **C** hear our prayer.
- Merciful God, You have promised to hold accountable all who hold authority over us. Bless Donald, our president; \_\_\_\_\_\_, our governor; all legislative bodies; all judges and magistrates; and all who serve the public trust, that they may act with integrity and honor in the fulfillment of all their duties and serve the causes of peace and justice for all. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C hear our prayer.
- C hear our prayer.
- P (Special Petitions)
- C hear our prayer.
- P O Lord, grant that we who commune on Christ's holy body and blood would repent of our sins, trust Christ's full forgiveness, and receive Him for strengthening of our faith and for greater love to serve those in need. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C hear our prayer.
- Heavenly Father, embolden all faithful Christians here and scattered throughout the world. Grant that we may always make the good confession, even in the midst of persecution. Lord, in Your mercy,
- **C** hear our prayer.
- Heavenly Father, we praise Your name for Your faithfulness to Abraham, Lazarus and to all the saints who have gone before us. Enliven us by Your Word and Sacraments, that convinced of Jesus' death and resurrection, we may eagerly await the day of our resurrection for His sake; through Him, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C Amen.

#### **OFFERING**

If you'd like to give electronically with your offering, please see the back of the bulletin for details on donating through Zelle or Thrivent.

Stand

## OFFERTORY





#### +SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT+



It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who on this day overcame death and the grave and by His glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.

Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

SANCTUS LSB 161



#### PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

LSB 161

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.



#### THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on tzhe night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My + body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

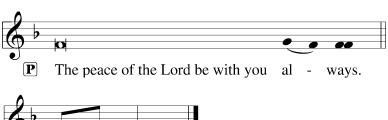
In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My + blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

- As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.
- **C** Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.
- P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

#### LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

#### PAX DOMINI







us

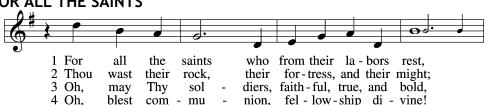
## Sit **DISTRIBUTION**



## DISTRIBUTION HYMNS 642 O LIVING BREAD FROM HEAVEN



#### **677 FOR ALL THE SAINTS**





And when the fight is fierce, the warfare long, Steals on the ear the distant triumph song, And hearts are brave again, and arms are strong.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

#### VERSE 6

The golden evening brightens in the west; Soon, soon to faithful warriors cometh rest; Sweet is the calm of paradise the blest.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

#### VERSE 7

But, lo, there breaks a yet more glorious day: The saints triumphant rise in bright array; The King of Glory passes on His way.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

#### VERSE 8

 $\wedge$ 

From earth's wide bounds, from ocean's farthest coast, Through gates of pearl streams in the countless host, Singing to Father, Son, and Holy Ghost:

#### Alleluia! Alleluia!

Text: William W. How, 1823-97, alt.; Tune: Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872-1958; Text and tune: Public domain

#### **POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE**

THANK THE LORD LSB 164



**C** Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev-'ry-one what He has done.





He re-calls His prom-is - es and leads His peo-ple forth in joy



#### POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

A Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

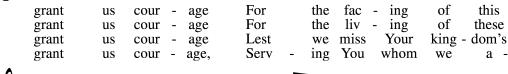
C Amen.

BENEDICTION LSB 166

- The Lord bless you and keep you.
  The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
  The Lord look upon you with favor and 

  → give you peace.
- C Amen.

#### **CLOSING HYMN** 850 GOD OF GRACE AND GOD OF GLORY 1 God of grace and God of glo - ry, On Your peo - ple 2 Lo. the hosts vil Scorn the Christ, as of round us 3 Cure Your chil dren's war - ring mad - ness: Bend our pride to 4 Save us from weak res - ig na - tion To the e - vils cient pour Your pow'r; Crown Your Church's an sto - ry; His ways! sail From the fears that long have bound us con - trol: Shame self - ish glad - ness. Your our wan ton. de - plore: gift of Your sal we Let the va - tion Bring its glo - rious flow'r. bud Grant wis - dom, to us Free our hearts faith and praise. Grant wis - dom. to us Rich things Grant wis - dom, in and poor in soul. us Be our glo ev - er - more. Grant wis - dom, ry 118





Text: Harry Emerson Fosdick, 1878–1969; Tune: John Hughes, 1873–1932; Text and tune: Public domain

#### DISMISSAL

**P** Go in peace, serve the Lord.

## C Thanks be to God.

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#### **READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY: Seventeenth Sunday After Pentecost**

Habakkuk 1:1 – 4, 2:1 – 4; 2 Timothy 1:1 – 14; Luke 17:1 – 10

#### SAINT DAYS, FEAST DAYS, & COMMEMORATIONS THIS WEEK

Monday, September 29<sup>th</sup>: St. Michael (archangel) & All Angels Tuesday, September 30<sup>th</sup>: Jerome, Translator of Holy Scripture

"Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you."

1 Thessalonians 5:18 (ESV)

"Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us."

Hebrews 12:1

### THIS WEEK AT MESSIAH LUTHERAN

TUES	10:00	<b>Bible Study with Pastor</b>
	6:00	Men's Potluck Bible Study
<b>THURS</b>	9 - 12	LWML Quilter's Group with Devotional
SUN	9:00	Bible Study & Sunday School
	10:30	Worship with Holy Communion

## **STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT**

"Woe to those who are at ease in Zion."

Amos 6:1a

The Book of Amos is a warning to God's people who have been given great material wealth. As Jesus Himself mentions, material blessings can turn into temptations — chiefly the temptation to think of ourselves as self-sufficient and independent. What does Amos suggest as a way to combat this temptation? First, faith in the Lord and dependence upon Him! And if our faith is right, we will want to follow the rest of Amos' instructions — to bless the poor with our alms and to make sure the Lord's House is properly cared for. In other words, we are called to align our actions with God's priorities and put others ahead of ourselves.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS & REMINDERS LOOSE CHANGE REMINDER: NEXT WEEK!

Loose change hiding? Don't delay— Bring it with you next Sunday!



Thank you for showing you care!

Do good:
be rich in
good works:
generous:
ready to
share...

take hold of the life that really is life!