

# Messiah Lutheran Church

VALDOSTA, GEORGIA

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**SUNDAY, MAY 3<sup>RD</sup>, 2026**



*"We have found the Messiah"*

*John 1: 41b*

*Welcome*

**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).
- **INVITATION TO COMMUNION** *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 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> 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: Tuesdays with the Pastor Bible Study in the **Fellowship Hall**.  
 Tuesday 6:00 pm: Pastor’s Men’s Potluck Bible Study in the **Pine Tree House**.  
 Tuesday 6:00 pm: Women’s Potluck Bible Study in the **Fellowship Hall**.

**THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER  
DIVINE SERVICE SETTING TWO**

*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**

*Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.”*  
*John 14:6*

Jesus is the one path to the Father, through our faith in Him; the true Son of God, one with the Father and the Holy Spirit; and our life, which he won for us in his death and glorious resurrection, defeating sin, death, and the devil! Because of Jesus, we have the ultimate gift of being made sons and daughters of God, inheritors of His Heavenly Kingdom, and receivers of eternal life with all believers!

**PRELUDE & PERSONAL DEVOTION (*Quiet Please*)**

**+CONFESSON AND ABSOLUTION+**

*Stand*

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

**INVOCATION**

- P** 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.
- C** **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.

**C** 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

**P** 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 PEACE:

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

## +SERVICE OF THE WORD+

### ENTRANCE HYMN

#### 468 I AM CONTENT! MY JESUS EVER LIVES



1 I am con-tent! My Je - sus ev - er lives, In whom my  
2 I am con-tent! My Je - sus is my head; His mem - ber  
3 I am con-tent! My Je - sus is my light, My ra - diant  
4 I am con-tent! At length I shall be free, A - wak - ened



heart is pleased. He has ful-filled the Law of God for me,  
I shall be. He bowed His head when on the cross He died  
sun of grace. His cheer - ing rays beam bless-ings forth for all,  
from the dead, A - ris - ing glo - rious ev - er - more to be



God's wrath He has ap-peased. Since He in death  
With cries of ag - o - ny. Now death is brought  
Sweet com - fort, hope, and peace. This Eas - ter sun  
With You, my liv - ing head. The chains that hold



could per - ish nev - er, I al - so shall  
in - to sub - jec - tion For me by Je -  
has brought sal - va - tion And ev - er - last -  
my bod - y, sev - er; Then shall my soul

not die for - ev - er. I am con - tent! I am con - tent!  
 sus' res - ur - rec - tion. I am con - tent! I am con - tent!  
 ing ex - ul - ta - tion. I am con - tent! I am con - tent!  
 re - joi - ce for - ev - er. I am con - tent! I am con - tent!

Text: attr. Johann Joachim Möller, 1660–1733; tr. August Crull, 1845–1923, alt.; Tune: Johann Rudolph Ahle, 1625–73; Text and tune: Public domain

**KYRIE**

LSB 168

- A** In peace let us pray to the Lord.
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- A** For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- A** For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- A** For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- A** Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.
- C** **Amen.**



**THIS IS THE FEAST**

LSB 155

*Refrain*

**C** 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  
 2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and  
 3 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and  
 4 Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry, and might be to  
 5 For the Lamb who was slain has be -



blood set us free to be peo - ple of God. *Refrain*  
 hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are His. *Refrain*  
 join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: *Stanza 4*  
 God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men. *Refrain*  
 gun His reign. Al - le - lu - ia. *Final Refrain*



*Final Refrain*  
 This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.



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

### SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** And also with you.
- P** Let us pray.

O God, You make the minds of Your faithful to be of one will. Grant that we may love what You have commanded and desire what You promise, that among the many changes of this world our hearts may be fixed where true joys are found; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

- C** Amen.

*Sit*

### OLD TESTAMENT READING

*Acts 6:1–9; 7:2a, 51–60*

<sup>1</sup>Now in these days when the disciples were increasing in number, a complaint by the Hellenists arose against the Hebrews because their widows were being neglected in the daily distribution. <sup>2</sup>And the twelve summoned the full number of the disciples and said, “It is not right that we should give up preaching the word of God to serve tables. <sup>3</sup>Therefore, brothers, pick out from among you seven men of good repute, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we will appoint to this duty. <sup>4</sup>But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word.” <sup>5</sup>And what they said pleased the whole gathering, and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, and Philip, and Prochorus, and Nicanor, and Timon, and Parmenas, and Nicolaus, a proselyte of Antioch. <sup>6</sup>These they set before the apostles, and they prayed and laid their hands on them. <sup>7</sup>And the word of God continued to increase, and the number of the disciples multiplied greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests became obedient to the faith. <sup>8</sup>And Stephen, full of grace and power, was doing great wonders and signs among the people. <sup>9</sup>Then some of those who belonged to the synagogue of the Freedmen (as it was called), and of the Cyrenians, and of the Alexandrians, and of those from Cilicia and Asia, rose up and disputed with Stephen. . . . <sup>2</sup>And Stephen said: “Brothers and fathers, hear me. . . . <sup>51</sup>You stiff-necked people, uncircumcised in heart and ears, you always resist the Holy Spirit. As your fathers did, so do you. <sup>52</sup>Which of the prophets did not your fathers persecute? And they killed those who announced beforehand the coming of the Righteous One, whom you have now betrayed and murdered, <sup>53</sup>you who received the law as delivered by angels and did not keep it.”

<sup>54</sup>Now when they heard these things they were enraged, and they ground their teeth at him. <sup>55</sup>But he, full of the Holy Spirit, gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. <sup>56</sup>And he said, “Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God.” <sup>57</sup>But they cried out with a loud voice and stopped their ears and rushed together at him. <sup>58</sup>Then they cast him out of the city and stoned him. And the witnesses laid down their garments at the feet of a young man named Saul. <sup>59</sup>And as they were stoning Stephen, he called out, “Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.” <sup>60</sup>And falling to his knees he cried out with a loud voice, “Lord, do not hold this sin against them.” And when he had said this, he fell asleep.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## EPISTLE

*1 Peter 2:2–10*

<sup>2</sup>Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up to salvation— <sup>3</sup>if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

<sup>4</sup>As you come to him, a living stone rejected by men but in the sight of God chosen and precious, <sup>5</sup>you yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

<sup>6</sup>For it stands in Scripture: “Behold, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious, and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.”

<sup>7</sup>So the honor is for you who believe, but for those who do not believe, “The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone,”

<sup>8</sup>and “A stone of stumbling, and a rock of offense.” They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do.

<sup>9</sup>But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. <sup>10</sup>Once you were not a people, but now you are God’s people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

*Stand*

## ALLELUIA AND VERSE

*LSB 173*



**C** Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?



You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

## HOLY GOSPEL

*John 14:1–14*

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the fourteenth chapter.

**C** Glory to You, O Lord.

<sup>1</sup>[Jesus said:] “Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. <sup>2</sup>In my Father’s house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? <sup>3</sup>And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also. <sup>4</sup>And you know the way to where I am going.” <sup>5</sup>Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?” <sup>6</sup>Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. <sup>7</sup>If you

had known me, you would have known my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.”

<sup>8</sup>Philip said to him, “Lord, show us the Father, and it is enough for us.” <sup>9</sup>Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you so long, and you still do not know me, Philip? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’? <sup>10</sup>Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own authority, but the Father who dwells in me does his works. <sup>11</sup>Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me, or else believe on account of the works themselves.

<sup>12</sup>“Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever believes in me will also do the works that I do; and greater works than these will he do, because I am going to the Father. <sup>13</sup>Whatever you ask in my name, this I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. <sup>14</sup>If you ask me anything in my name, I will do it.”

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

**C** Praise to You, O Christ.

*Sit*

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

### HYMN OF THE DAY

#### 633 AT THE LAMB'S HIGH FEAST WE SING

STS. 1-4, 8



1 At the Lamb's high feast we sing Praise to  
2 Praise we Him, whose love di - vine Gives His  
3 Where the pas - chal blood is poured, Death's dread  
4 Praise we Christ, whose blood was shed, Pas - chal  
△ 8 Fa - ther, who the crown shall give, Sav - ior,



our vic - to - rious King, Who has washed us in the tide  
sa - cred blood for wine, Gives His bod - y for the feast—  
an - gel sheathes the sword; Is - rael's hosts tri - umphant go  
vic - tim, pas - chal bread; With sin - cer - i - ty and love  
by whose death we live, Spir - it, guide through all our days:



Flow - ing from His pierc - ed side. Al - le - lu - ia!  
Christ the vic - tim, Christ the priest. Al - le - lu - ia!  
Through the wave that drowns the foe. Al - le - lu - ia!  
Eat we man - na from a - bove. Al - le - lu - ia!  
Three in One, Your name we praise. Al - le - lu - ia!

Text: Latin, c. 5th–10th cent.; tr. Robert Campbell, 1814–68, alt.; Tune: Kirchengeseng, 1566, Ivanceice; Text and tune: Public domain

## SERMON

CHAPLAIN CRAIG MUEHLER

*Stand*

## NICENE CREED

**C** 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**

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

Heavenly Father, through the power of Christ's resurrection You adopt all who believe in Him. Receive us as Your newborn children and nourish our faith through the pure spiritual milk of Your Word, that we may dwell in Your presence forever. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** Send laborers into Your harvest, Lord. Preserve Your ministers among us devoted to Your Word and to prayer. Give many servants to Your Church, that neither the preaching nor the care of Your people may fall into neglect or disregard. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** Merciful Lord, help parents to raise up their children to know You as their help and hope, that they may not put their trust in princes in whom there is no salvation. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** Holy God, Your power brought all things into being and still preserves what You have made. Bless Donald, our president; the Congress of the United States; Brian Kemp, our governor; and all elected and appointed civil servants. Lead them to honor You and Your purpose, establishing order and justice, encouraging virtue, and protecting all life. Give them wisdom and moderation to lead for the well-being of the nation. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** Father of glory, Your Son declared Himself to be the way, the truth and the life. Bless all who have requested our prayers. May Christ Himself be their way of salvation, their truth amid doubt and their life amid death. Grant them a sure and steadfast hope in the good news that He has prepared a place for them with You, where pain and sickness are no more and all things are made new. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** Almighty God, in Christ You have made us a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation and a people for Your possession. Preserve Your people in the one true faith, and grant that all who come to the Supper this day might do so with repentant hearts that thankfully receive Your Son's body and blood. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** O Lord, we thank and praise You for Your servant Stephen, whom Your Son has received into His glory. May we imitate him in faith and love to speak Your truth with boldness, forgiving those who sin against us as Christ forgave His persecutors from the cross. When our last hour comes, let us fall asleep in Him and be born into eternal life, for the sake of Him who was born into our flesh to redeem it, even Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C** **Amen.**

**P** Graciously receive our prayers, deliver and preserve us, for to You alone we give all glory, honor and worship, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

*Sit*

## 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

### 955 LET THE VINEYARDS BE FRUITFUL

Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, And fill to the brim our  
cup of bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were  
sown, That we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath - er the  
hopes and the dreams of all; U - nite them with the prayers we  
of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with Your pres - ence, and  
give us A fore - taste of the feast to come.

Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-80; Tune: Richard W. Hillert, 1923-2010  
Text and tune: © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110000972

## +SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT+

### PREFACE

*LSB 177*

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And also with you.

**P** Lift up your hearts.

**C** We lift them to the Lord.

**P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

## PROPER PREFACE

**P** 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. And most especially are we bound to praise You on this day for the glorious resurrection of Your Son, Jesus Christ, the very Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us and bore the sins of the world. By His dying He has destroyed death, and by His rising again He has restored to us everlasting life. Therefore with Mary Magdalene, Peter and John, and with all the witnesses of the resurrection, 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 178



**C** Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of  
pow'r and might: Heav'n and earth are full of Your  
glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.  
Bless - ed is He who comes in the name  
of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.



## PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

LSB 178

**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

**P** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the 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  $\text{✠}$  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  $\text{✠}$  blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

**P** 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

**C** *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

LSB 180

**P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C** Amen.

## AGNUS DEI

LSB 180

**C** Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the world;  
have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a - way the  
sin of the world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of  
God, You take a - way the sin of the world;  
grant us peace, grant us peace.

*Sit*



DISTRIBUTION

644 THE CHURCH'S ONE FOUNDATION



1 The Church's one foun - da - tion Is Je - sus Christ, her Lord;  
 2 E - lect from ev - 'ry na - tion, Yet one o'er all the earth;  
 3 Though with a scorn - ful won - der The world sees her op - pressed,  
 4 Through toil and trib - u - la - tion And tu - mult of her war  
 5 Yet she on earth has u - nion With God, the Three in One,



She is His new cre - a - tion By wa - ter and the Word.  
 Her char - ter of sal - va - tion: One Lord, one faith, one birth.  
 By schisms rent a - sun - der, By her - e - sies dis - tressed,  
 She waits the con - sum - ma - tion Of peace for - ev - er - more  
 And mys - tic sweet com - mu - nion With those whose rest is won.



From heav'n He came and sought her To be His ho - ly bride;  
 One ho - ly name she bless - es, Par - takes one ho - ly food,  
 Yet saints their watch are keep - ing; Their cry goes up, "How long?"  
 Till with the vi - sion glo - rious Her long - ing eyes are blest,  
 O bless - ed heav'n - ly cho - rus! Lord, save us by Your grace



With His own blood He bought her, And for her life He died.  
 And to one hope she press - es With ev - 'ry grace en - dued.  
 And soon the night of weep - ing Shall be the morn of song.  
 And the great Church vic - to - rious Shall be the Church at rest.  
 That we, like saints be - fore us, May see You face to face.

Text: Samuel J. Stone, 1839-1900, alt.; Tune: Samuel S. Wesley, 1810-76; Text and tune: Public domain



## 861 CHRIST BE MY LEADER



1 Christ be my Lead - er by night as by day; Safe through the  
 2 Christ be my Teach - er in age as in youth, Drift - ing or  
 3 Christ be my Sav - ior in calm as in strife; Death can - not



dark - ness, for He is the way. Glad - ly I fol - low, my  
 doubt - ing, for He is the truth. Grant me to trust Him; though  
 hold me, for He is the life. Nor dark - ness nor doubt - ing nor



fu - ture His care, Dark - ness is day - light when Je - sus is there.  
 shift - ing as sand, Doubt can - not daunt me; in Je - sus I stand.  
 sin and its stain Can touch my sal - va - tion: with Je - sus I reign.

Text: Timothy Dudley-Smith, 1926-2024; Tune: Irish;  
 Text: © 1964, renewed 1992 Hope Publishing Co. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110000972; Tune: Public domain

## 973 THY WORD IS A LAMP



Thy Word is a lamp un-to my feet And a light un-to my path.



1 When I feel a - fraid, think I've lost my way,  
 2 I will not for - get Your love for me, and yet My



Still You're there right be - side me. And  
 heart for - ev - er is wan - der - ing.



noth - ing will I fear as long as You are near.  
 Je - sus, be my guide and hold me to Your side; And



Please be near me to the end.  
 I will love You to the end.

Text: Amy Grant, 1960; Tune: Michael W. Smith, 1957;  
 Text and tune: © 1984 Meadowgreen Music Company, admin. EMI. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110000972

*Stand*

## POST COMMUNION CANTICLE THANK THE LORD

LSB 164



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



Let all who seek the Lord re - joice and proud-ly bear His name.

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

with shouts of thanks-giv-ing. Al-le-lu - ia, al-le-lu - ia.

**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 183*

**P** 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**

**660 STAND UP, STAND UP FOR JESUS**

1 Stand up, stand up for Je - sus, Ye sol - diers of the cross.  
 2 Stand up, stand up for Je - sus; The trum - pet call o - bey;  
 3 Stand up, stand up for Je - sus; Stand in His strength a - lone.  
 4 Stand up, stand up for Je - sus; The strife will not be long;

Lift high His roy - al ban - ner; It must not suf - fer loss.  
 Stand forth in might - y con - flict In this His glo - rious day.  
 The arm of flesh will fail you, Ye dare not trust your own.  
 This day the din of bat - tle, The next the vic - tor's song.

From vic - t'ry un - to vic - t'ry His ar - my He shall lead  
 Let all His faith - ful serve Him A - gainst un - num - bered foes;  
 Put on the Gos - pel ar - mor; Each piece put on with prayer.  
 The sol - diers, o - ver - com - ing, Their crown of life shall see

Till ev - 'ry foe is van - quished, And Christ is Lord in - deed.  
 Let cour - age rise with dan - ger And strength to strength op - pose.  
 Where du - ty calls or dan - ger, Be nev - er want - ing there.  
 And with the King of Glo - ry Shall reign e - ter - nal - ly.

Text: George Duffield, Jr., 1818-88, alt.; Tune: George J. Webb, 1803-87; Text and tune: Public domain

## DISMISSAL

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

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

Monday, May 4<sup>th</sup>: Friedrich Wyneken – Pastor & Missionary

Tuesday, May 5<sup>th</sup>: Frederick the Wise – Christian Ruler

Thursday, May 7<sup>th</sup>: C.F. Walther – Theologian

Saturday, May 9<sup>th</sup>: Job – Patriarch

### READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY: The Sixth Sunday of Easter

Acts 17:16 – 31; 1 Peter 3:13 – 22; John 14:15 – 21

*“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 †

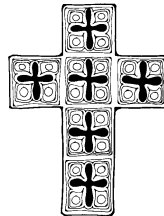
TUES	6:00	Ladies Potluck Bible Study
THURS	9 – 12	Quilter’s Group with Devotional

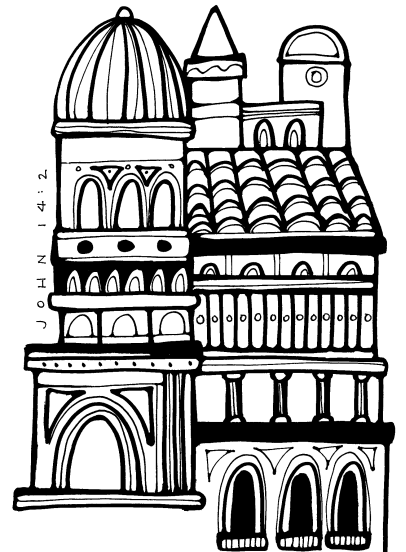
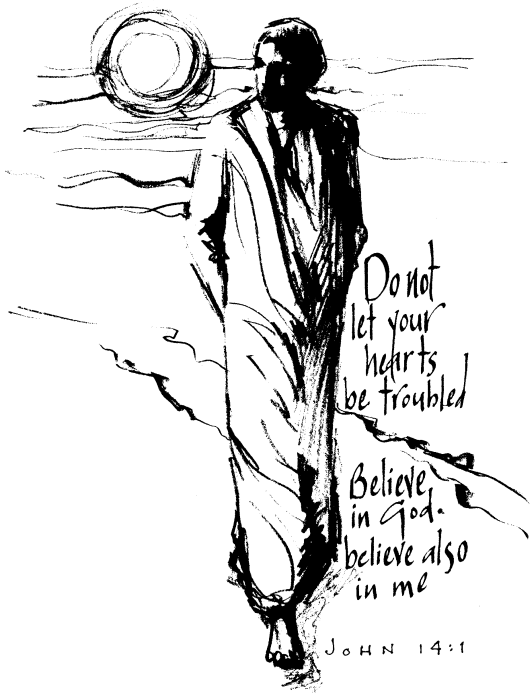
### † ANNOUNCEMENTS & REMINDERS †

#### LOOSE CHANGE REMINDER – TODAY!



Check your pockets, cups, and trays,  
Coins tucked in forgotten ways!  
Today’s the day—give what you’ve got,  
Every coin counts—big or not!  
Small in size, yet rich in grace—  
God’s love shines in every place.





In my father's house there are many dwelling places.