MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH

VALDOSTA, GEORGIA

500 Baytree Road - messiahluth500@gmail.com

Office: 229-244-0143 Pastor's Cell: 304-992-2365

Reverend Dr. Richard Lohmeyer Intentional Interim Pastor

SUNDAY, MAY 11[™], 2025



"We have found the Messiah", John 1:41b

WELCOME VISITORS!

We are pleased to meet you and have you visit with us today! Please sign our Guest Book located in the church entryway (Narthex) as well as the attendance sheet located in the red folder in each pew.Let us know how we may be of service to 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 changing table is 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, and trusting in the promises of his Word, "—given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins," 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 from 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 in the rack on the communion rail. 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 6th – 12th 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**.



FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER 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

The fourth Sunday of Easter is traditionally Good Shepherd Sunday, a day on which the Church focuses on Jesus, the Good Shepherd. Perhaps the most remembered thoughts on Good Shepherd Sunday come from Psalm 23. Jesus himself says, "I am the good shepherd." (John 10: 14) So today our focus is on the Good Shepherd who knows our every need even before we ask.

PRELUDE & PERSONAL DEVOTION (Quiet Please)

+CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION+

Stand

The sign of the cross may be made by all 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.
- 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 for self-examination.

- 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

- **P** The peace of the Lord be with you.
- C And also with you

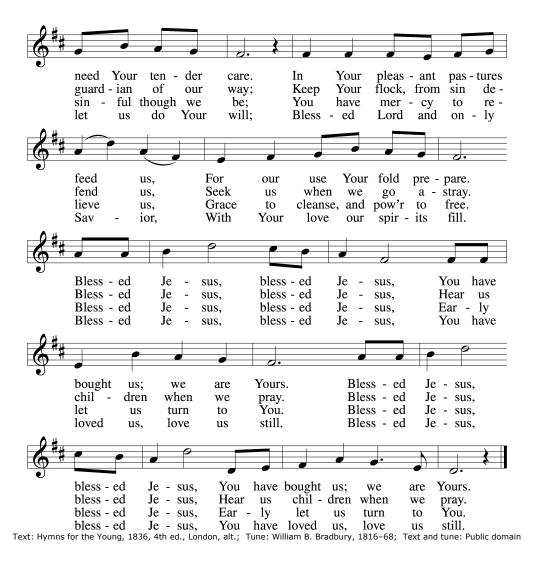
Please extend the hand of fellowship to your neighbors with the words: "The peace of the Lord."

+SERVICE OF THE WORD+

ENTRANCE HYMN

711 SAVIOR, LIKE A SHEPHERD LEAD US





INTROIT

Psalm 78:70-72; 79:13; antiphon: John 10:14, 15b

P I am the good shepherd.

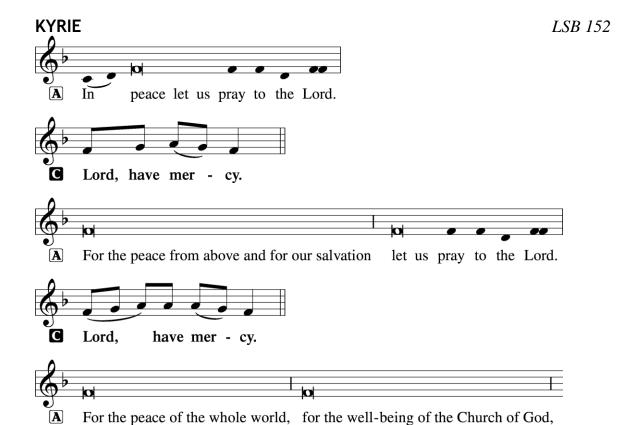
I know my own and my own know me, and I lay down my life forthe sheep.

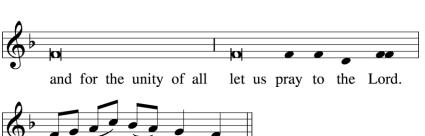
He chose David his servant and took him from the sheepfolds; from following the nursing ewes he brought him to shepherd Jacob his people, Israel his inheritance.

With upright heart he shepherded them and guided them with his skillful hand.

But we your people, the sheep of your pasture, will give thanks to you forever; from generation to generation we will recount your praise.

Glory be to the Father and to the Sonand to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen. I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, and I lay down my life for the sheep.







Lord, have mer - cy.



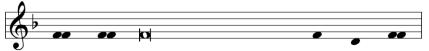
For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise



the Lord. let us pray to



Lord, have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra-cious Lord.





SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY



PLet us pray.

Almighty God, merciful Father, since You have wakened from death the Shepherd of Your sheep, grant us Your Holy Spirit that when we hear the voice of our Shepherd we may know Him who calls us each by name and follow where He leads; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Sit

OLD TESTAMENTActs 20:17–35

¹⁷Now from Miletus [Paul] sent to Ephesus and called the elders of the church to come to him. ¹⁸And when they came to him, he said to them:

"You yourselves know how I lived among you the whole time from the first day that I set foot in Asia, ¹⁹serving the Lord with all humility and with tears and with trials that happened to me through the plots of the Jews; ²⁰how I did not shrink from declaring to you anything that was profitable, and teaching you in public and from house to house, ²¹testifying both to Jews and to Greeks of repentance toward God and of faith in our Lord Jesus Christ. ²²And now, behold, I am going to Jerusalem, constrained by the Spirit, not knowing what will happen to me there, ²³except that the Holy Spirit testifies to me in every city that imprisonment and afflictions await me.

²⁴But I do not account my life of any value nor as precious to myself, if only I may finish my course and the ministry that I received from the Lord Jesus, to testify to the gospel of the grace of God. ²⁵And now, behold, I know that none of you among whom I have gone about proclaiming the kingdom will see my face again. ²⁶Therefore I testify to you this day that I am innocent of the blood of all of you, ²⁷ for I did not shrink from declaring to you the whole counsel of God. ²⁸Pay careful attention to yourselves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to care for the church of God, which he obtained with his own blood. ²⁹I know that after my departure fierce wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock; ³⁰and from among your own selves will arise men speaking twisted things, to draw away the disciples after them. ³¹Therefore be alert, remembering that for three years I did not cease night or day to admonish everyone with tears. ³²And now I commend you to God and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up and to give you the inheritance among all those who are sanctified. ³³I coveted no one's silver or gold or apparel. ³⁴You yourselves know that these hands ministered to my necessities and to those who were with me. ³⁵In all things I have shown you that by working hard in this way we must help the weak and remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he himself said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive."

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

EPISTLE Revelation 7:9–17

⁹After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands, ¹⁰and crying out with a loud voice, "Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!" ¹¹And all the angels were standing around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, ¹²saying, "Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen."

¹³Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, clothed in white robes, and from where have they come?" ¹⁴I said to him, "Sir, you know." And he said to me, "These are the ones coming out of the great tribulation. They have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

¹⁵"Therefore they are before the throne of God,and serve him day and night in his temple;and he who sits on the throne will shelter them with his presence. ¹⁶They shall hunger no more, neither thirst anymore;

the sun shall not strike them, nor any scorching heat.

¹⁷For the Lamb in the midst of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of living water, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

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

Stand



HOLY GOSPEL John 10:22–30

- P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the tenth chapter.
- **C** Glory to You, O Lord.

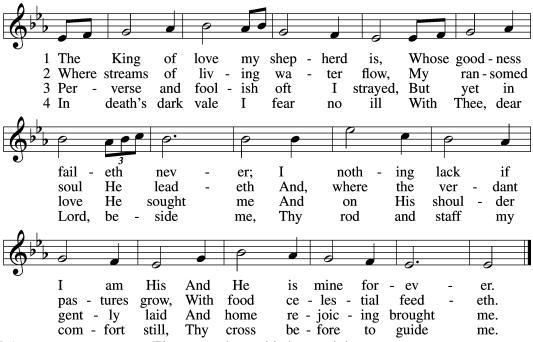
²²At that time the Feast of Dedication took place at Jerusalem. It was winter, ²³and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the colonnade of Solomon. ²⁴So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, "How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Christ, tell us plainly." ²⁵Jesus answered them, "I told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father's name bear witness about me, ²⁶but you do not believe because you are not part of my flock. ²⁷My sheep hear my voice, and I know them,

and they follow me. ²⁸I give them eternal life, and they will never perish, and no one will snatch them out of my hand. ²⁹My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all, and no one is able to snatch them out of the Father's hand. ³⁰I and the Father are one."

- **P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.
- Praise to You, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

HYMN OF THE DAY 709 THE KING OF MY SHEPARD IS



VERSE 5

Thou spreadst a table in my sight;

Thine unction grace bestoweth;

And, oh, what transport of delight From Thy pure chalice floweth!

VERSE 6

And so through all the length of days
Thy goodness faileth never;
Good Shepherd, may I sing Thy praise
Within Thy house forever!

Text: Henry W. Baker, 1821–77; Tune: Irish, c. 18th cent.; Text and tune: Public domain

Stand

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 Φ of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

- **P** In peace, let us pray to the Lord:
- **C** Lord, have mercy.
- For the Holy Spirit in rich measure, that hearing and following Christ, our Shepherd, we would pass through every tribulation to our eternal heavenly home, let us pray to the Lord:
- **C** Lord, have mercy.
- P For faithful men to pastor the Church of God, that in the face of fierce opposition and twisted speech, they would not shrink from proclaiming the kingdom of Christ, let us pray to the Lord:

- C Lord, have mercy.
- For the gift of mothers who raise their children in all things good, a mirror of God's love, that they may be strengthened in their calling and sustained through weary and difficult times, let us pray to the Lord:
- C Lord, have mercy.
- For all peoples, nations and tribes, that under God's rule, they may faithfully promote good and punish evil, and that God would reform them when necessary, let us pray to the Lord:
- C Lord, have mercy.
- For the sick, the suffering and the dying, [especially _______,] that the Lord would deliver and comfort them, guard them against despair, and grant them patience in the days of our trouble as we await His perfect healing, let us pray to the Lord:
- C Lord, have mercy.
- For those who grieve <u>[for _______]</u>, that they would be strengthened in faith to see those they mourn in the light of the resurrection of Christ, let us pray to the Lord:
- **C** Lord, have mercy.
- **P** (Special Petitions)
- C Lord, have mercy.
- P For those who come to the Lord's Supper this day, that our Good Shepherd would calm all fears in this valley of the shadow of death through the holy table here prepared in the presence of our enemies; that He would give us repentance and an increase of faith; and that in every tribulation or besetting sin, He would lead us to find comfort and strength in the overflowing mercy given to us in this Sacrament, let us pray to the Lord:
- C Lord, have mercy.
- P For faith to endure the tribulations of this life and pass through death to join the saints in the ceaseless praises of heaven, let us pray to the Lord:
- C Lord, have mercy.

- O Lord, You promised to raise up a shepherd to deliver Your sheep from all their enemies. We give You thanks for giving us Your own Son to be our Good Shepherd. Grant us to hear His voice, know Him by faith and follow where He leads, that He may deliver us into Your arms forever; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C Amen.

Sit
OFFERING
Stand

OFFERTORY





Text: John W. Arthur, 1922–80 Tune: Richard W. Hillert, 1923–2010; Text and tune: © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship.

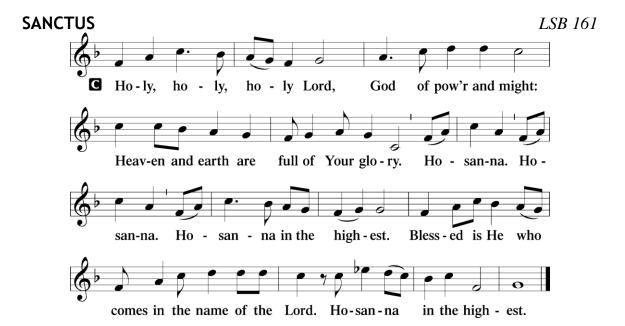
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+SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT+

PREFACE LSB 160 P Lord be The with you. And al - so with you. Lift your hearts. up We lift them to the Lord. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. is right to give Him thanks and praise.

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:



PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

LSB 161

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 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 + 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.

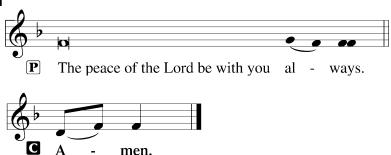
C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

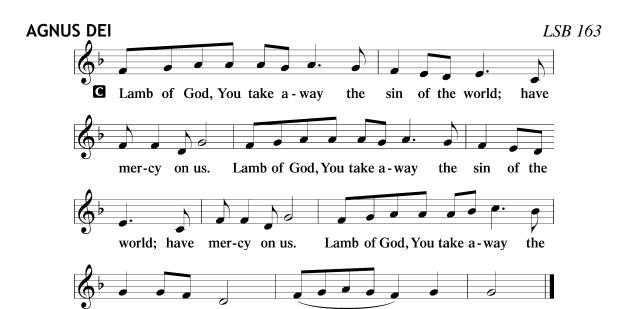
P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. 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







grant

peace.

us

of the world;

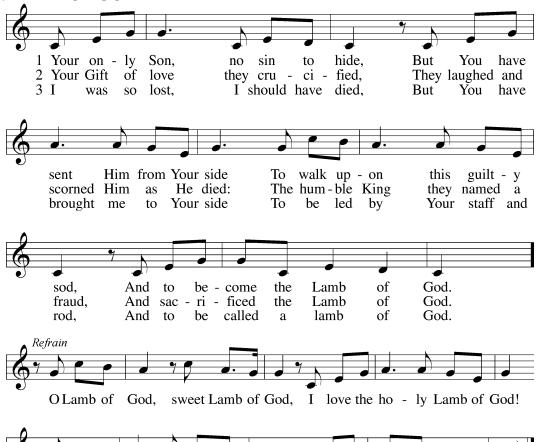
sin

COMES FROM OUR
GOD UPON THE
THRONE AND FROM
(THE LAMB

Distribution

Distribution Hymns

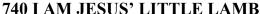
550 LAMB OF GOD



O wash me in His pre-cious blood, My Je-sus Christ, the Lamb of God.

Text and tune: Twila Paris, 1958

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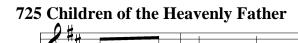
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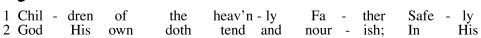
Text and tune: Public domain



The sheep hear my voice. I know them and they







3 Nei - ther life the nor death shall From ev er 4 Though He giv eth He tak eth, God His or



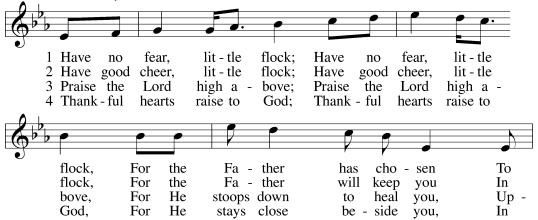
His Nest - ling bird in bos - om gath - er; nor star in lv courts they flour - ish. From all vil things He ho e -His chil - dren sev - er; Un - to them His grace He chil - dren ne'er for - sak - eth; His the lov - ing pur - pose



Such ref e'er giv - en. heav en a uge was might spares them; In His y arms He bears them. show - eth, And their sor - rows all He know - eth. sole ho - ly. ly To pre - serve them pure and Text: Carolina Sandell Berg, 1832-1903; tr. Ernst W. Olson, 1870-1958; Tune: Lofsångerochandeligawisor, 1873, Sweden

Text: Carolina Sandell Berg, 1832–1903; tr. Ernst W. Olson, 1870–1958; Tune: Lofsångerochandeligawisor, 1873, Sweder
Text: Public domain; Tune: Public domain

735 Have No Fear, Little Flock





Sit

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.

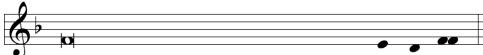
C Amen.

BENEDICAMUS LSB 212

A Let us bless the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

BENEDICTION LSB 166



P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

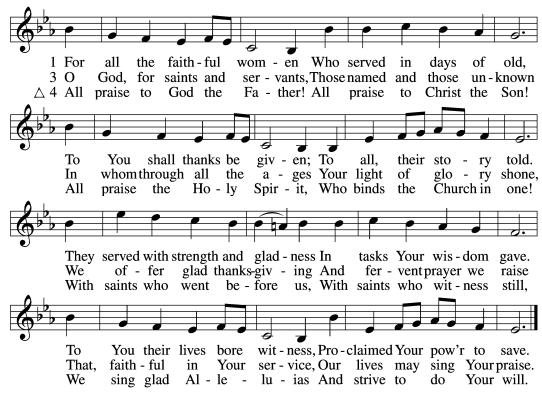
The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.



CLOSING HYMN

855 – FOR ALL THE FAITHFUL WOMEN

NOTE VERSE 2 AT BOTTOM



Verse 2: Written by Pastor Lohmeyer

For all the Christian mothers, a gift they are from You.
They always think of others, are through Your Word renewed,
Teaching their children Your holy will, proclaiming Your power to save
Their love and care continue, our thanks for this gift You gave.

DISMISSAL

- **P** Go in peace, serve the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY: FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER Acts 11:1-18; Revelation 21:1-7; John 16:12-22

SAINT DAYS, FEAST DAYS, & COMMEMORATIONS THIS WEEK

May 11 - Cyril and Methodius - Missionaries to the Slaves

"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
MON	6:00	Church Council Meeting
TUES	10:00	Bible Study with Pastor: "The Parables of Jesus"
	6:00	Men's Potluck Bible Study
WED	11–3	Loaves & Fishes Food Pantry
THURS	9:00	Quilting Group with Devotions & Lunch
	6:00	Messiah Singers Practice

STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT

1 Peter 2:11 – "Beloved, I urge you as sojourners and exiles to abstain from the passions of the flesh, which wage war against your soul." Passions of the flesh — that means the things our flesh desires. One way to sum up all the "passions of the flesh" is to call them greed: the desire to have more things to bring us comfort and peace of mind. But that shows us the real problem with greed. It wages war against our soul, and it urges us to place our trust in the things of this world and not in God. But St. Peter reminds us that we are sojourners and exiles. We belong to the kingdom of God. We have been purchased by the blood of Christ and belong to Him. That knowledge frees us from greed, and it frees us for generosity.

One simple scan, so quick and neat, A small donation is so sweet. It helps our mission, bold and true, Spreading God's love to me and you.



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Thank you for joining us!