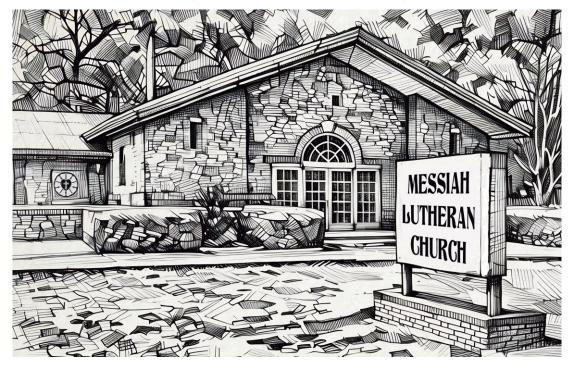
Messiah Lutheran Church

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, NOVEMBER 30TH, 2025



"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).
- <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 $6^{th} - 12^{th}$ 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 FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT 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

"The night is far gone; the day is at hand."

Romans 13:12a

It's easy to look around at this world and see nothing but darkness. We live constantly in the midst of all kinds of sin. But as we begin this Advent season, we celebrate the coming of the day, the birth of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, who overcame the darkness and forgives all sin. We look forward to His return, so close at hand, when the night will be forever banished and the Light will reign eternal!

PRELUDE & PERSONAL DEVOTION (Quiet Please)

+CONFESSION 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.
- But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

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

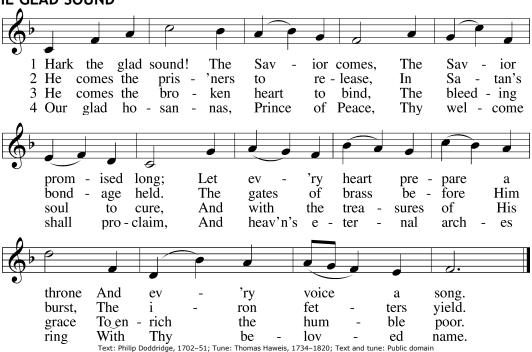
- Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

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 349 HARK THE GLAD SOUND



+BLESSING OF THE ADVENT WREATH+

- **P** In the name of the Father and of the

 → Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.
- P Beloved in the Lord, as we begin the season of Advent, let this wreath remind us that Jesus Christ came to conquer the darkness of sin and to lead us into the light of His glorious kingdom. As the

prophet Isaiah says, "The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shined."

- **P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,
- **C** who made heaven and earth.
- **P** The Lord be with you.
- C And also with you.
- **P** Let us pray.

O Lord Jesus Christ, the true light who comes into the world to enlighten all people, bless us as we light the candles of this wreath in preparation for Your coming, and enkindle in our hearts the fire of Your love that we may receive You with joy and gladness and evermore remain steadfast in the faith; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

- C Amen.
- P The Lord Almighty, the Father, the

 → Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless this wreath for use in His Church throughout this holy season of Advent.
- C Amen.

(The first Candle is Lit)

Lord, Jesus, as we light this candle, we open our hearts to prepare a place for You. Fill us with Your light, that we may share it with the world. Amen.

LIGHT ONE CANDLE Verse 1

Light one can-dle for hope, one bright can-dle for hope, He brings hope to ev-'ry heart He comes! He comes! Light one can-dle for hope, one bright can-dle for hope, He brings hope to ev-'ry heart He comes! He comes! He brings hope to ev-'ry heart He comes! He comes!

#FBC-A017495; This arrangement c 2017 by Hinshaw Music (administered worldwide by Fred Bock Music Company, Inc.); Contributors: Natalie Sleeth, Arr. Heather Sorenson; Tune: Music by Natalie Sleeth; arranged by Heather Sorenson Text: Words by Natalie Sleeth; OneLicense.net #726161

Stand

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.

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

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

Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come, that by Your protection we may be rescued from the threatening perils of our sins and saved by Your mighty deliverance; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Sit

OLD TESTAMENT READING

plowshares.

Isaiah 2:1-5

The Mountain of the LORD

¹The word that Isaiah the son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem. ²It shall come to pass in the latter days that the mountain of the house of the LORD shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be lifted up above the hills; and all the nations shall flow to it, ³and many peoples shall come, and say: "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob, that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths." For out of Zion shall go the law, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. ⁴He shall judge between the nations, and shall decide disputes for many peoples; and they shall beat their swords into

and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore. ⁵O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the LORD.

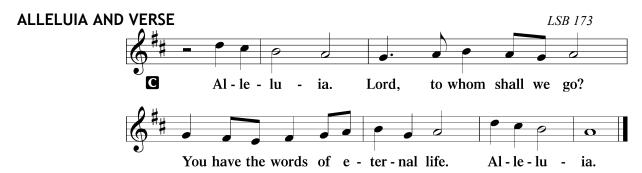
- **A** This is the Word of the Lord.
- **C** Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE Romans 13:11–14

¹¹Besides this you know the time, that the hour has come for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed. ¹²The night is far gone; the day is at hand. So then let us cast off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light. ¹³Let us walk properly as in the daytime, not in orgies and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality and sensuality, not in quarreling and jealousy. ¹⁴But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

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

Stand



HOLY GOSPEL Matthew 24:36–44

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-fourth chapter.

Glory to You, O Lord.

No One Knows That Day and Hour

³⁶[Jesus said:] "But concerning that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but the Father only. ³⁷As were the days of Noah, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. ³⁸For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day when Noah entered the ark, ³⁹and they were unaware until the flood came and swept

them all away, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. ⁴⁰Then two men will be in the field; one will be taken and one left. ⁴¹Two women will be grinding at the mill; one will be taken and one left. ⁴²Therefore, stay awake, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. ⁴³But know this, that if the master of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. ⁴⁴Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.

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

Sit

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

HYMN OF THE DAY

332 SAVIOR OF THE NATIONS, COME



VERSE 5

God the Father was His source, Back to God He ran His course. Into hell His road went down, Back then to His throne and crown.

VERSE 6

For You are the Father's Son Who in flesh the vict'ry won. By Your mighty pow'r make whole All our ills of flesh and soul.

VERSE 7

From the manger newborn light Shines in glory through the night. Darkness there no more resides; In this light faith now abides.

VERSE 8

△ Glory to the Father sing, Glory to the Son, our king,

Glory to the Spirit be

Now and through eternity.

Text: attr. Ambrose of Milan, 340–397; German version, Martin Luther, 1483–1546; (sts. 1–2): tr. William M. Reynolds, 1812–76; (sts. 3, 6): tr. Lutheran Service Book, 2006; (sts. 4–5, 8): tr. F. Samuel Janzow, 1913–2001; (st. 7): tr. Gifford A. Grobien, 1973; Tune: Geystliche gesangk Buchleyn, 1524, Wittenberg, ed. Johann Walter; Text (sts. 3, 6-7): © 2006 Concordia Publishing House; (sts. 4–5, 8): © 1978 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110000972; Text (sts. 1–2) and tune: Public domain

SERMON

PASTOR STEPHEN WAREHAM

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 + of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

- **P** In peace, let us pray to the Lord:
- C Lord, have mercy.
- P For the peace from above, that our Lord's advent might kindle in us a love for His name, let us pray to the Lord:
- C Lord, have mercy.
- That the church would be preserved against all her enemies; and that we, as God's people, would walk in His ways and one day welcome with glad hosannas Jesus in His glory, let us pray to the Lord:
- C Lord, have mercy.
- For Christian homes, that God would defend the single, husbands and wives, and all children from the temptation to walk in the works of darkness, clothing them instead with the armor of light, let us pray to the Lord:

pray to

- **C** Lord, have mercy.
- For our president, governor and all in temporal authority, that godly wisdom would guide policy and lead nations into the way of peace, let us the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

- C Lord, have mercy.
- **P** (Special Petitions)
- C hear our prayer.
- For unity amongst God's people, that we may confess with one voice the truth of the Word and live together in love and anticipation for that day when Christ shall return in triumph and we will

enter with all the saints into the marriage feast of the Lamb without end; and that we would here discern the body and blood of Christ in this holy meal, let us pray to the Lord:

- C Lord, have mercy.
- Lord God, heavenly Father, we thank, bless and praise You forever that You have sent Your Son to reign over us poor sinners, who for our trespasses deserve rightly to remain in bondage to sin and Satan. You have given us a righteous and humble King who, through His death, has saved us from sin and eternal death. We implore You, enlighten, govern and direct us by Your Holy Spirit, that we may remain faithful to this righteous King and Savior and not be offended by His humble appearance or despised Word, but believe in Him and obtain eternal salvation; 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

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



+SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT+

PREFACE LSB 177

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

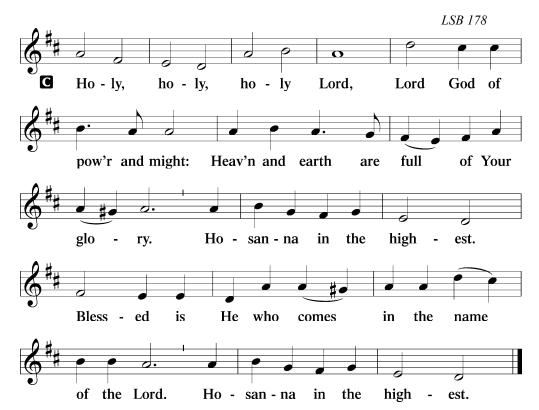
- **P** Lift up your hearts.
- **C** We lift them to the Lord.
- **P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- **C** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

PROPER PREFACE

You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, whose way John the Baptist prepared, proclaiming Him the promised Messiah, the very Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world, and calling sinners to repentance that they might escape from the wrath to be revealed when He comes again in glory. 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



PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

LSB 178

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."
- 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.
- 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

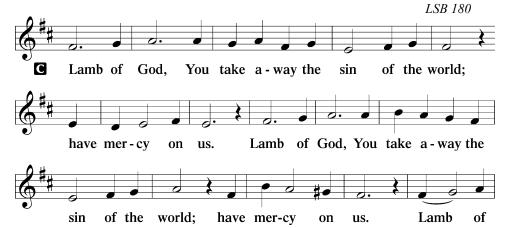
Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the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

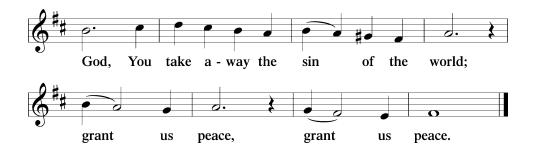
PAX DOMINI LSB 180

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



AGNUS DEI

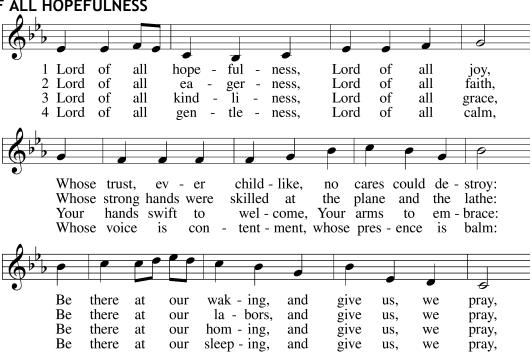


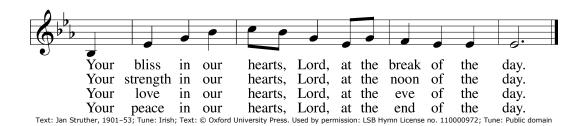


Sit



DISTRIBUTION 738 LORD OF ALL HOPEFULNESS









O come, Thou Key of David, come, And open wide our heav'nly home; Make safe the way that leads on high, And close the path to misery. Refrain

VERSE 6

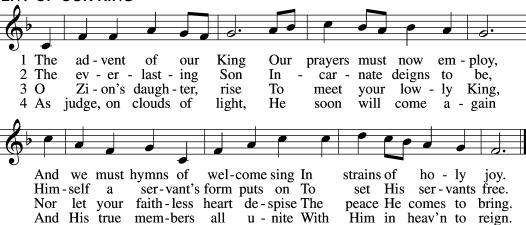
O come, Thou Dayspring from on high, And cheer us by Thy drawing nigh; Disperse the gloomy clouds of night, And death's dark shadows put to flight. Refrain

VERSE 7

O come, Desire of nations, bind In one the hearts of all mankind; Bid Thou our sad divisions cease,

And be Thyself our King of Peace. Refrain

331 THE ADVENT OF OUR KING



VERSE 5

Before the dawning day Let sin's dark deeds be gone, The sinful self be put away, The new self now put on.

VERSE 6

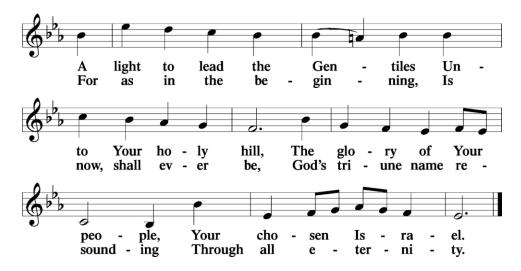
△ All glory to the Son,
Who comes to set us free,
With Father, Spirit, ever one
Through all eternity.

Text: Charles Coffin, 1676–1749; tr. John Chandler, 1806–76, alt.; Tune: Aaron Williams, 1731–76; Text and tune: Public domain

Stand

POST COMMUNION CANTICLE NUNC DIMITTIS





POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

A Let us pray.

Gracious God, our heavenly Father, You have given us a foretaste of the feast to come in the Holy Supper of Your Son's body and blood. Keep us firm in the true faith throughout our days of pilgrimage that, on the day of His coming, we may, together with all Your saints, celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom which has no end; 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

The Lord bless you and keep you.

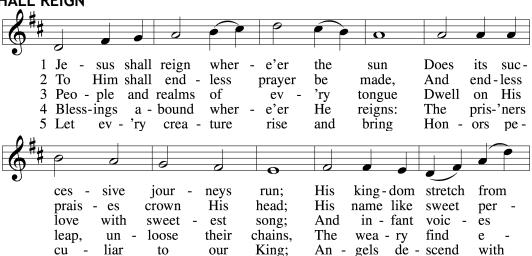
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and

→ give you peace.

C Amen.

CLOSING HYMN 832 JESUS SHALL REIGN





DISMISSAL

P Go in peace, serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

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READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY: Second Sunday in Advent

Isaiah 11:1-10; Romans 15:4-13; Matthew 3:1-12

SAINT DAYS, FEAST DAYS, & COMMEMORATIONS THIS WEEK

Sunday, November 30th: St. Andrew – Apostle Thursday, December 4th: John of Damascus – Theologian & Hymn Writer Saturday, December 6th: Nicholas of Myra – Pastor

"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

Serving THIS week (23rd) Serving NEXT week (7th)

OFFICIANT	Pastor Wareham	OFFICIANT	Pastor Wareham	
LECTOR	John Obermann	LECTOR	Bo Miller	
COMM. ASST.	Paul Hill	COMM. ASST. Larry Lorden		
ALTAR CARE	Connie DiMarco	ALTAR CARE	Donna Berg	
ACOLYTE	Bo Miller	ACOLYTE	Bo Miller	
GREETER	Heather Miller	GREETER	Marcia Lorden	
USHER 1	Ken Eldridge	USHER 1	Curt Fahsholz	
USHER 2	Don Brugel	USHER 2	Ed Sheeley	
ELDER	Mike DiMarco	ELDER Paul Hill		
ORGAN/PIANO	Kay Vincent	ORGAN/PIANO	Kay Vincent	

+ THIS WEEK AT MESSIAH LUTHERAN +

TUES	10:00	Bible Study with Pastor
	6:00	Men's Potluck Bible Study
	6:00	Ladies' Potluck Bible Study
WED	11 - 3	Loaves & Fishes Food Pantry – VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!
	12:00	Advent Midweek Worship
	6:00	Advent Dinner
	7:00	Advent Midweek Worship
THURS	9 - 12	NO LWML QUILTERS GROUP - holiday break 'til 1/8/2026

STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT

"If anyone says anything to you, you shall say, 'The Lord needs them,' and he will send them at once."

Matthew 21:3

Just a colt and her foal. How significant could they be? Could they really be used by the Lord for some great, heavenly purpose? This is one facet of stewardship we often forget: the blessing it is to us to be of service in the Lord's Kingdom. What honor the Lord bestows upon us by using our gifts for His goals!



IN OUR PRAYERS

"Blessed be the God and Father of Our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our afflictions."

2 Cor. 1:3-4a

Those who serve and protect us:

Connor Montgomery, Devin Parrish, Robin Schmidt, Bryan & Hannah Tordoff, Keith Crist, Eric Matlock, Matthew Francis, Jeff Kraushaar, Abbey Wolters, Catherine Hernandez & Grayson Coester.

In Our Prayers:

- o Shirley Nelson: Diagnosed with colon cancer; had surgery.
- o Gary West: Karin Boles' neighbor, Guillain-Barré Syndrome.
- o Donald Barnes: Ken Eldridge's cousin, stage 4 colon cancer.
- o Tom Jenkins: health concerns.
- o Christina: Friend of the Rothas: being treated for cancer.
- o Martin Fluder: ongoing health issues and upcoming surgery 1/30/2026.
- Linda Leinwol: sister of Mary Beth Francis, ongoing prayers.
- o Rita Norman: friend of the Francises, diagnosed with cancer.
- $\circ\hspace{0.4cm}$ Donna McClintock: friend of the Mitchells, battling cancer.
- o Jenny Klement: Gary Klement's daughter-in-law, lymphoma.
- Terri Davis: friend of Gail Carroll, stroke & severely diabetic.
- o Ron Poitras: friend of Sandy Bingham, bladder cancer.
- $\circ\$ Nancy & Jim P.: friends of the DiMarcos, family in crisis.
- o Sonia Vance: Eldridge's son's girlfriend, ongoing health concerns.
- o Don & Judy DeWitt: ongoing health concerns.
- Darial Simone Davis (Keller's friend): NICU & life-saving measures.
- o George Vincent: Prayers for healing after hip surgery.
- o Nancy Kuter: Kuter's Sister-in-law: Diagnosed with bone cancer.

Nursing Home/Homebound

- Mary Kinchen: homebound.
- o Don Sullens: Diagnosed with lung cancer and leukemia.
- Dennis Kluball: at The Orchard.
- Steven Keller: homebound.
- Barbe Fahsholz: at The Canopy, room 241.

Fiscal 2025-26 YTD Income v. Expenses - Week 11	
Income Fiscal YTD (includes designated gifts)*	\$ 49,945.66
Expenses Fiscal YTD	\$ 42,215.08
Variance Fiscal YTD*	\$ 7,730.58
Funds Collected to Date vs Budget Plan	\$ 42,498.66
Budget Planned Goal Fiscal YTD**	\$ 47,781.28
Above/Below Budget Goal to Date**	\$ (5,282.62)

Scan the code, it's easy and clear, A gift of love that we hold dear. Your support will make us strong, Together we'll go far and long.



Give Online to Messiah! Scan code with your phone & follow directions.



