

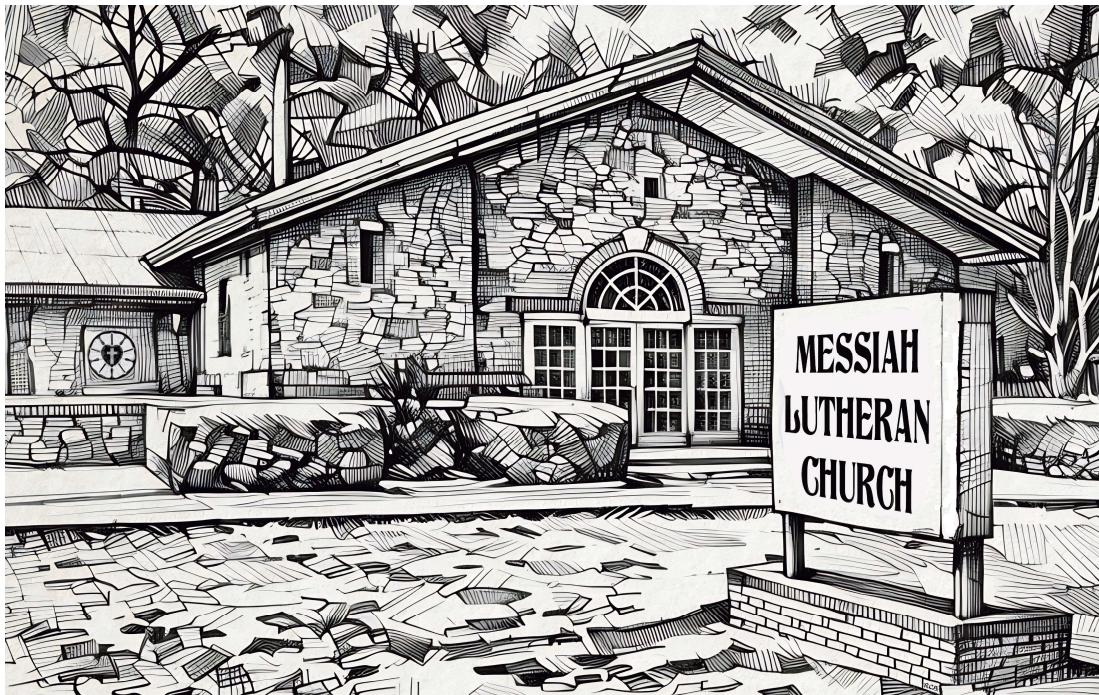
# *Messiah Lutheran Church*

**VALDOSTA, GEORGIA**

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**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 1ST, 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**.

#### **FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY 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**

*“Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.”* *Matthew 5:12*

Persecution for our faith may seem far from us these days. But Satan never stops attacking us and our faith. Hardships and suffering will always be a part of this world, but when we endure in the faith, we are blessed to join the ranks of the prophets and saints who came before us, confident in Jesus' promise that our reward in heaven will be greater than we could ever imagine.

## 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  $\dagger$  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  $\dagger$  Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
**C** Amen.

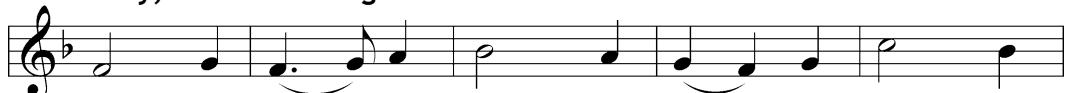
#### SHARING PEACE:

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

### +SERVICE OF THE WORD+

#### ENTRANCE HYMN

##### 851 Lord of Glory, You Have Bought Us



1 Lord of glo - ry, You have bought us With Your  
2 Grant us hearts, dear Lord, to give You Glad - ly,  
3 Won - drous hon - or You have giv - en To our  
4 Lord of glo - ry, You have bought us With Your

lost ones That tre - men - dous sac - ri - fice.  
  
And with that have free - ly giv - en Bless - ings  
 Till our cold and self - ish na - tures, Warmed by  
 Can it be, O gra - cious Mas - ter, That You  
 Give us faith to trust You bold - ly, Hope, to  
  
count - less as the sand To the un - thank - ful  
 You, at length be - lieve That more hap - py  
 deign for alms to sue, Say - ing by Your  
 stay our souls on You; But, oh, best of  
  
and the e - vil With Your own un - spar - ing hand.  
 and more bless - ed 'Tis to give than to re - ceive.  
 poor and need - y, "Give as I have giv'n to you"?  
 all Your grac - es, With Your love our love re - new.
   
 Text: Eliza S. Alderson, 1818-89, alt.; Tune: Rowland H. Prichard, 1811-87; Text and tune: Public domain
 

## KYRIE

LSB 168

- P** In peace let us pray to the Lord.
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** 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.**
- P** For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.
- C** **Amen.**

## GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

LSB 170

A      Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to His peo-ple on earth.  
 C      Lord God, hea - en - ly king, al - might - y God and  
 Fa - ther: We wor - ship You, we give You thanks, we  
 praise You for Your glo - ry. Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly  
 Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God: You  
 take a-way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on  
 us. You are seat - ed at the right hand of the  
 Fa-ther; re - ceive our prayer. For You a-lone are the  
 Ho - ly One, You a-lone are the Lord, You a -  
 lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,  
 lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,  
 in the glo - ry of God the Fa-ther. A - men.

## SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

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

Almighty God, You know we live in the midst of so many dangers that in our frailty we cannot stand upright. Grant strength and protection to support us in all dangers and carry us through all temptations; 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

*Micah 6:1–8*

<sup>1</sup>Hear what the LORD says: Arise, plead your case before the mountains, and let the hills hear your voice. <sup>2</sup>Hear, you mountains, the indictment of the LORD, and you enduring foundations of the earth, for the LORD has an indictment against his people, and he will contend with Israel.

<sup>3</sup>“O my people, what have I done to you? How have I wearied you? Answer me!

<sup>4</sup>For I brought you up from the land of Egypt and redeemed you from the house of slavery, and I sent before you Moses, Aaron, and Miriam.

<sup>5</sup>O my people, remember what Balak king of Moab devised, and what Balaam the son of Beor answered him, and what happened from Shittim to Gilgal, that you may know the saving acts of the LORD.”

<sup>6</sup>“With what shall I come before the LORD, and bow myself before God on high? Shall I come before him with burnt offerings, with calves a year old?

<sup>7</sup>Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams, with ten thousands of rivers of oil? Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?” <sup>8</sup>He has told you, O man, what is good; and what does the LORD require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

## EPISTLE

*1 Corinthians 1:18–31*

<sup>18</sup>The word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. <sup>19</sup>For it is written,

“I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,  
and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.”

<sup>20</sup>Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? <sup>21</sup>For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, it pleased God through the folly of what we preach to save those who believe. <sup>22</sup>For Jews demand signs and Greeks seek wisdom, <sup>23</sup>but we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and folly to Gentiles, <sup>24</sup>but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. <sup>25</sup>For the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men.

<sup>26</sup>For consider your calling, brothers: not many of you were wise according to worldly standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. <sup>27</sup>But

God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong;<sup>28</sup> God chose what is low and despised in the world, even things that are not, to bring to nothing things that are,<sup>29</sup> so that no human being might boast in the presence of God.<sup>30</sup> He is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, whom God made our wisdom and our righteousness and sanctification and redemption.<sup>31</sup> Therefore, as it is written, “Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord.”

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

*Stand*

### ALLELUIA AND VERSE

*LSB 173*

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

*Matthew 5:1-12*

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

<sup>1</sup>Seeing the crowds, [Jesus] went up on the mountain, and when he sat down, his disciples came to him.  
<sup>2</sup>And he opened his mouth and taught them, saying:  
<sup>3</sup>“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.  
<sup>4</sup>“Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.  
<sup>5</sup>“Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.  
<sup>6</sup>“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.  
<sup>7</sup>“Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy.  
<sup>8</sup>“Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.  
<sup>9</sup>“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.  
<sup>10</sup>“Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.  
<sup>11</sup>“Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. <sup>12</sup>Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.”

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

*Sit*

### CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

## HYMN OF THE DAY

### 842 SON OF GOD, ETERNAL SAVIOR

1 Son of God, e - ter - nal Sav - ior, Source of life and  
 2 As You, Lord, have lived for oth - ers, So may we for  
 3 Come, O Christ, and reign a - mong us, King of love and  
 4 Son of God, e - ter - nal Sav - ior, Source of life and

truth and grace, Word made flesh, whose birth a - mong us  
 oth - ers live. Free - ly have Your gifts been grant - ed;  
 Prince of Peace; Hush the storm of strife and pas - sion,  
 truth and grace, Word made flesh, whose birth a - mong us

Hal - lows all our hu - man race, You our Head, who, throned in  
 Free-ly may Your ser - vants give. Yours the gold and Yours the  
 Bid its cru - el dis - cords cease. By Your pa - tient years of  
 Hal - lows all our hu - man race: By Your pray - ing, by Your

glo - ry, For Your own will ev - er plead: Fill us with Your  
 sil - ver, Yours the wealth of land and sea; We but stew - ards  
 toil - ing, By Your si - lent hours of pain, Quench our fe - vered  
 will - ing That Your peo - ple should be one, Grant, O grant our

love and pit - y, Heal our wrongs, and help our need.  
 of Your boun - ty Held in sol - emn trust will be.  
 thirst of plea - sure, Stem our self - ish greed of gain.  
 hope's fru - i - tion: Here on earth Your will be done.

Text: Somerset T. C. Lowry, 1855-1932, alt.; Tune: Oude en Nieuwe Hollantse . . . Contredansen, c. 1710, Amsterdam; Text and tune: Public domain

## SERMON

## PASTOR STEPHEN WAREHAM

*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  $\dagger$  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.
- Lord, You have called us to good work in our various vocations. Give us courage that we might never be ashamed of Christ and Him crucified, but be free to boast in the Lord within our callings. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** God of all wisdom, You tell us plainly that the Word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but it is Your power to all who are being saved. Strengthen the faith of pastors and congregations, that they would not turn to man-made wisdom but boldly proclaim Christ and Him crucified. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Heavenly Father, You sent Your Son as the Savior of the world, that all the families of the nations might worship before You. Bless the families of this congregation with Your grace and protection, that they might remember You in both joy and trouble and worship before You forevermore. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** O Lord of lords, You rescued Your people from Egypt and confounded Balak, king of Moab, for their protection. Guide the decisions and actions of all earthly authorities, that Your people may live in peace and quietness. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Almighty God, when Christ returns in His glory You promise to wipe away every tear from every eye. Comfort those who mourn. Heal and deliver, according to Your good and gracious will, those troubled by sickness and affliction /including \_\_\_\_\_/. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** (Special Petitions)
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** God of all righteousness, You command us to be holy as You are holy, and You sanctify us with Your Son's body and blood. Prepare the hearts of all who partake of the Sacrament today, that they might repent of their sin, trust in Your promises and find their righteousness in Christ. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** hear our prayer.

**P** Holy Father, You know the way of the righteous. Preserve Your people from walking in the counsel of the wicked, from standing in the way of sinners and from sitting in the seat of scoffers. By Your grace, cause them to delight in Your Holy Word. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** hear our prayer.

**P** All these things and whatever else You know that we need, grant us, Father, for the sake of Him who died and rose again and now lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God 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, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for what had been hidden from before the foundation of the world You have made known to the nations in Your Son. In Him, being found in the substance of our mortal nature, You have manifested the fullness of Your 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

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  $\text{\tfrac{X}{+}}$  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  $\text{\tfrac{X}{+}}$  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

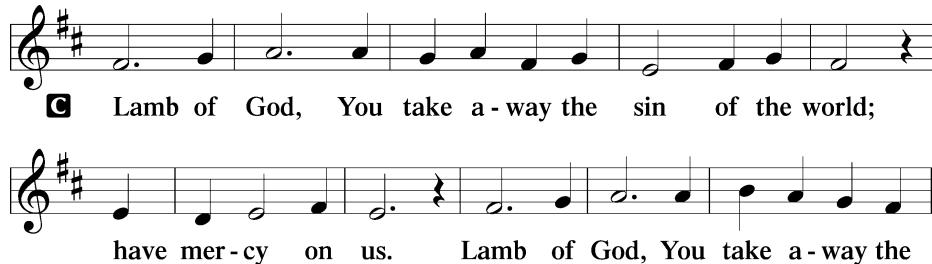
LSB 180

**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**

**982 BLEST ARE THEY**

1 Blest are they, the poor in spir - it; Theirs is the  
 2 Blest are they, the low - ly ones; They shall in -  
 3 Blest are they who show mer - cy; Mer - cy  
 4 Blest are they who seek peace; They are the  
 5 Blest are you who suf - fer hate, All be -  
 king-dom of God. Blest are they, full of  
 her - it the earth. Blest are they who hun-ger and  
 shall be theirs. Blest are they, the pure of  
 chil - dren of God. Blest are they who suf - fer in  
 cause of Me. Re-joice and be glad, yours is the  
 sor - row; They shall be con - soled.  
 thirst; They shall have their fill.  
 heart; They shall see God!  
 faith; The glo - ry of God is theirs.  
 king - dom; Shine for all to see.  
*Refrain*  
 Re - joice and be glad! Bless-ed are you,  
 ho-ly are you. Re - joice and be glad! Yours is the



king - dom of God.  
Text and tune: David Haas, 1957; Text and tune: © 1985 GIA Publications, Inc. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110000972

## 426 WHEN I SURVEY THE WONDROUS CROSS

1 When I sur - ve y the won - drous cross On which the  
 2 For - bid it, Lord, that I should boast Save in the  
 3 See, from His head, His hands, His feet Sor - row and  
 4 Were the whole realm of na - ture mine, That were a

Prince of Glo - ry died, My rich - est gain I  
 death of Christ, my God; All the vain things that  
 love flow min - gled down! Did e'er such love and  
 trib - ute far too small; Love so a - maz - ing,

count but loss And pour con - tempt on all my pride.  
 charm me most, I sac - ri - fice them to His blood.  
 sor - row meet Or thorns com - pose so rich a crown?  
 so di - vine, De - mand s my soul, my life, my all!

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748; Tune: Second Supplement to Psalmody in Miniature, 1778, London; adapt. Edward Miller, 1731-1807  
Text and tune: Public domain

## 524 HOW SWEET THE NAME OF JESUS SOUNDS

1 How sweet the name of Je - sus sounds In  
 2 It makes the wound - ed spir - it whole And  
 3 Dear name! The rock on which I build, My  
 4 O Je - sus, shep - herd, guard - ian, friend, My

a be - liev - er's ear! It soothes our sor - rows,  
 calms the heart's un - rest; 'Tis man - na to the  
 shield and hid - ing place; My nev - er - fail - ing  
 Prophe - et, Priest, and King, My Lord, my life, my

heals our wounds, And drives a - way our fear.  
 hun - gry soul And to the wea - ry, rest.  
 trea - sury filled With bound - less stores of grace.  
 way, my end, Ac - cept the praise I bring.

### VERSE 5

How weak the effort of my heart,  
How cold my warmest thought!  
But when I see Thee as Thou art,  
I'll praise Thee as I ought.

### VERSE 6

Till then I would Thy love proclaim  
With ev'ry fleeting breath;  
And may the music of Thy name  
Refresh my soul in death!

Text: John Newton, 1725–1807, alt.; Tune: Alexander R. Reinagle, 1799–1877; Text and tune: Public domain

*Stand*

## POST COMMUNION CANTICLE

### NUNC DIMITTIS

LSB 199



C Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac-  
cord-ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,  
which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,  
a light to light-en the Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of Thy  
peo-ple Is - ra-el. Glo - ry be to the Father and  
to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ev - er shall be, world with - out end. A - men.

MATTHEW 5:7

BLESSED ARE THE MERCIFUL  
FOR THEY SHALL OBTAIN

*Mercy*

## POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

**P** 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  $\text{☩}$  give you peace.

**C** Amen.

## CLOSING HYMN

### 837 LIFT HIGH THE CROSS

*sts. ref-6*

*Refrain*

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro-claim Till  
all the world a - dore His sa - cred name.

1 Come, Chris-tians, fol - low where our Cap - tain trod,  
2 Led on their way by this tri - um-phant sign,  
3 All new - born sol - diers of the Cru - ci - fied  
4 O Lord, once lift - ed on the glo - rious tree,

Our king vic - to - rious, Christ, the Son of God.  
The hosts of God in con - qu'ring ranks com-bine.  
Bear on their brows the seal of Him who died.  
As Thou hast prom - ised, draw us all to Thee.

#### VERSE 5

Let ev'ry race and ev'ry language tell  
Of Him who saves our lives from death and hell.

Refrain

#### VERSE 6

So shall our song of triumph ever be:  
Praise to the Crucified for victory!

Refrain

Text: George W. Kitchin, 1827-1912; rev. Michael R. Newbolt, 1874-1956, alt.; Tune: Sydney H. Nicholson, 1875-1947  
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## 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, February 2<sup>nd</sup>: The Purification of Mary & the Presentation of Our Lord  
Thursday, February 5<sup>th</sup>: Jacob – Patriarch

## READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY: Fourth Sunday After the Epiphany

Isaiah 58:3 – 9a; 1 Corinthians 2:1 – 12; Matthew 5:13 – 20

*“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 - SAT	(2/3 – 2/7) Pastor OOO	
TUES	10:00	NO BIBLE STUDY WITH PASTOR
	6:00	NO MEN'S POTLUCK BIBLE STUDY
TUES	6:00	Ladies Potluck Bible Study
WED	3:00	LWML Meeting
THURS	9 – 12	Quilter's Group with Devotional

## STEWARSHIP THOUGHT

*“Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world?”* 1 Corinthians 1:20

God's ways are certainly not the world's ways, including the way God tells us to manage the resources He's given to us. The world says, “hold on, hold back, and gather up.” Jesus says to store up treasure in heaven, where moth and rust do not destroy and where no thief breaks in to steal. Whose way do you think is best? What is wiser: the wisdom of the financial gurus or the foolishness of God?

## †ANNOUNCEMENTS & REMINDERS†

### TODAY: LOOSE CHANGE HELPS SUPPORT OUR GIVING!

Looking for an easy way to share a little extra joy? Your spare change can make a big difference in supporting our ministry and outreach. Every coin counts, and your giving helps us continue the work God has called us to do.

A jar of coins, both old and new,  
Can do great things—thanks to you!  
*Thank you for helping us care!*



## **HOLY BOWLS OF SPICE! THE CHILI COOKOFF AWAKENS**

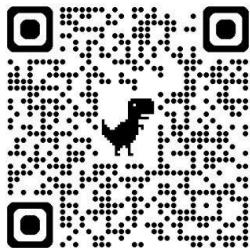
Get ready, Messiah family! Join us for our **First Annual Chili Cookoff**—a night of fun, fellowship, and fiery flavors. Whether you're entering your award-winning chili or just coming to taste and vote, there's a bowl with your name on it!

**When:** Saturday, February 21<sup>st</sup> starting at 4 pm; Tasting at 4:30 and Dinner at 5!

**Where:** Fellowship Hall

**Cost:** \$5 tickets include a meal and 5 voting tickets for the chili judging! Additional tickets will be available for voting as well.

If you'd like to enter your chili for the competition, please add your name to the sign-up sheet in the narthex. Bring your appetite, your competitive spirit, and your love for community. Let's see whose chili reigns supreme!



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