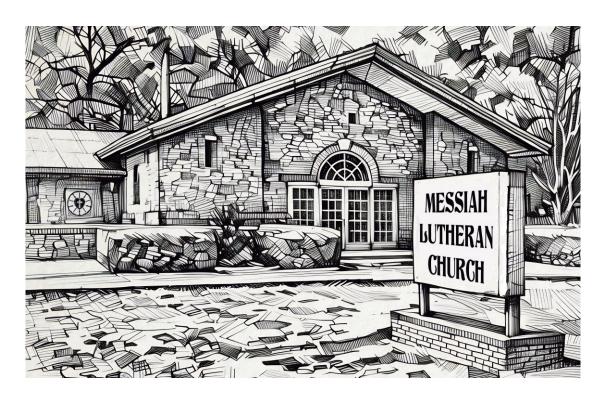
Messiah Lutheran Church

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, OCTOBER 5TH, 2025



"We have found the Messiah."

John 1:41b

WELCOME VISITORS!

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

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

• OPPORTUNITIES FOR CHRISTIAN GROWTH

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

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

Sundays at 9:15 am: Sunday School: Grades 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.



SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST DIVINE SERVICE SETTING ONE

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

AS WE GATHER

2 Timothy 1:6-7 "For this reason I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands, for God gave us a spirit not of fear but of power and love and self-control."

Exercising our God-given gifts can be difficult. It's easy to feel unqualified or unworthy, even anxious or stressed, about putting our gifts to use when the opportunity arises. But as Paul so powerfully puts it, "God gave us a spirit not of fear but of power and love and self-control." God has given us all that we need to put His gifts to use! Power and love and self-control and, above them all, faith in God our Father and His Son Jesus Christ! God's plan will never fail, and when we seek to carry out God's will for us, He'll never let us fail either.

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.

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

CONFESSION OF SINS LSB 151

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

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

ABSOLUTION LSB 151

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

SHARING OF THE PEACE:

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



+SERVICE OF THE WORD+

ENTRANCE HYMN

575 MY HOPE IS BUILT ON NOTHING LESS



INTROIT

Psalm 119:162, 164-165, 167; antiphon: v. 166

I hope for your salvation, O LORD, and I do your commandments.

I rejoice at your word like one who finds great spoil.

Seven times a day I praise you for your just and righteous decrees.

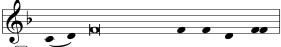
Great peace have those who love your law; nothing can make them stumble.

My soul keeps your testimonies; I love them exceedingly.

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

I hope for your salvation, O LORD, and I do your commandments.

KYRIE LSB 152



peace let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.





For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



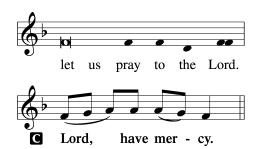
and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.

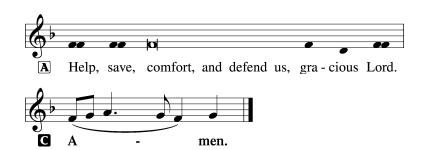


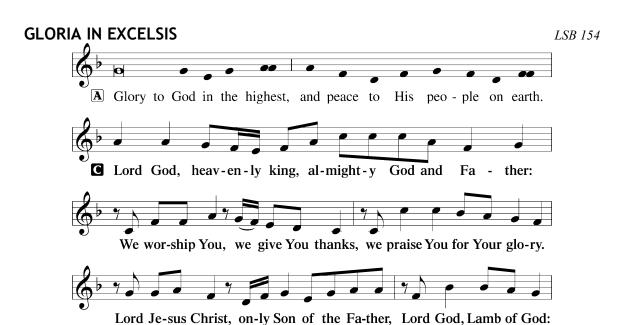
have mer - cy. Lord,

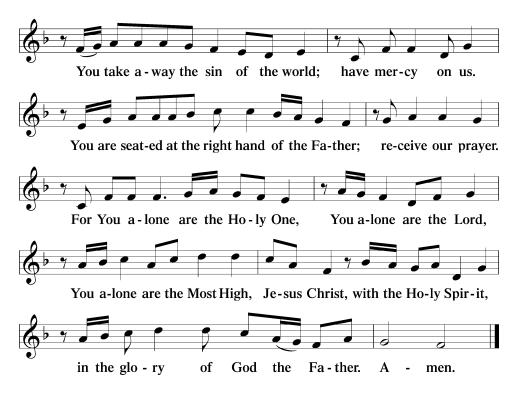


For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise

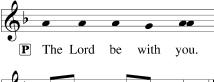








SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY





- C And al so with you.
- **P** Let us pray.

O God, our refuge and strength, the author of all godliness, by Your grace hear the prayers of Your Church. Grant that those things which we ask in faith we may receive through Your bountiful mercy; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



OLD TESTAMENT READING

Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4

¹The oracle that Habakkuk the prophet saw.

Habakkuk's Complaint

²O LORD, how long shall I cry for help, and you will not hear? Or cry to you "Violence!" and you will not save?

³Why do you make me see iniquity, and why do you idly look at wrong? Destruction and violence are before me; strife and contention arise.

⁴So the law is paralyzed, and justice never goes forth.

For the wicked surround the righteous;so justice goes forth perverted.

¹I will take my stand at my watchpost and station myself on the tower, and look out to see what he will say to me, and what I will answer concerning my complaint.

The Righteous Shall Live by His Faith

²And the LORD answered me: "Write the vision; make it plain on tablets, so he may run who reads it.

³For still the vision awaits its appointed time; it hastens to the end—it will not lie.

If it seems slow, wait for it; it will surely come; it will not delay.

⁴"Behold, his soul is puffed up; it is not upright within him, but the righteous shall live by his faith."

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

EPISTLE

2 Timothy 1:1–14

Greeting

¹Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God according to the promise of the life that is in Christ Jesus, ²To Timothy, my beloved child:

Grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.

Guard the Deposit Entrusted to You

³I thank God whom I serve, as did my ancestors, with a clear conscience, as I remember you constantly in my prayers night and day. ⁴As I remember your tears, I long to see you, that I may be filled with joy. ⁵I am reminded of your sincere faith, a faith that dwelt first in your grandmother Lois and your mother

Eunice and now, I am sure, dwells in you as well. ⁶For this reason I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands, ⁷for God gave us a spirit not of fear but of power and love and self-control.

⁸Therefore do not be ashamed of the testimony about our Lord, nor of me his prisoner, but share in suffering for the gospel by the power of God, ⁹who saved us and called us to a holy calling, not because of our works but because of his own purpose and grace, which he gave us in Christ Jesus before the ages began, ¹⁰and which now has been manifested through the appearing of our Savior Christ Jesus, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel, ¹¹for which I was appointed a preacher and apostle and teacher, ¹²which is why I suffer as I do. But I am not ashamed, for I know whom I have believed, and I am convinced that he is able to guard until that Day what has been entrusted to me. ¹³Follow the pattern of the sound words that you have heard from me, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. ¹⁴By the Holy Spirit who dwells within us, guard the good deposit entrusted to you.

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

Stand



HOLY GOSPEL Luke 17:1–10

- P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the seventeenth chapter.
- Glory to You, O Lord.

Temptations to Sin

¹[Jesus] said to his disciples, "Temptations to sin are sure to come, but woe to the one through whom they come! ²It would be better for him if a millstone were hung around his neck and he were cast into the sea than that he should

cause one of these little ones to sin. ³Pay attention to yourselves! If your brother sins, rebuke him, and if he repents, forgive him, ⁴and if he sins against you seven times in the day, and turns to you seven times, saying, 'I repent,' you must forgive him."

Increase Our Faith

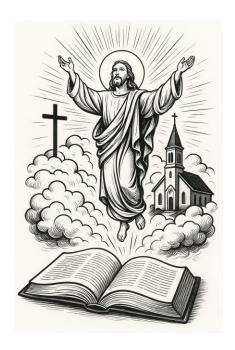
⁵The apostles said to the Lord, "Increase our faith!" ⁶And the Lord said, "If you had faith like a grain of mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry tree, 'Be uprooted and planted in the sea,' and it would obey you.

Unworthy Servants

⁷"Will any one of you who has a servant plowing or keeping sheep say to him when he has come in from the field, 'Come at once and recline at table'? ⁸Will he not rather say to him, 'Prepare supper for me, and dress properly, and serve me while I eat and drink, and afterward you will eat and drink'? ⁹Does he thank the servant because he did what was commanded? ¹⁰So you also, when you have done all that you were commanded, say, 'We are unworthy servants; we have only done what was our duty.'"

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

Sit



855 FOR ALL THE FAITHFUL WOMEN

sts. 1. 13. 3–4



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 + 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.

 Father in heaven, You give to Your people a spirit not of fear, but of power and self-control. Bless Your people with winsomeness and wisdom, that they might confidently speak Your Word in faith and love to all who will hear. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C hear our prayer.
- Almighty God, remember our pastors whom You have called to a holy calling. Embolden them in their testimony concerning our Lord Jesus, and strengthen them by Your power to suffer courageously for the Gospel and guard the good deposit entrusted to them. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C hear our prayer.
- Everlasting Father, guide husbands and wives to love and forgive each other, and strengthen them in their life together. Help parents to be

faithful examples for their children, and grant that orphans may know the joy of a home to call their own. Lord, in Your mercy,

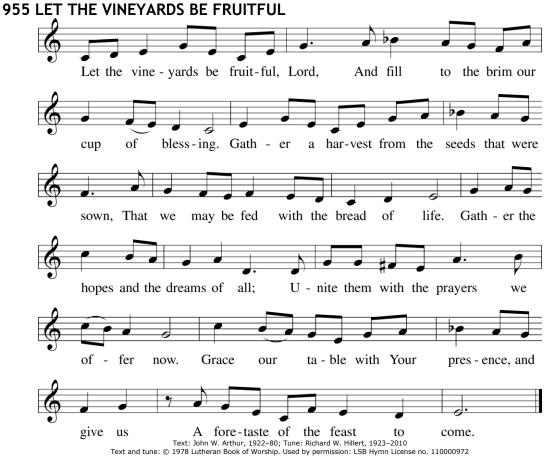
- C hear our prayer.
- O Lord, hear us on behalf of those who exercise authority over us, who order us according to our laws, who execute justice and who defend us against our enemies. Bless our president; Congress; governor; legislature; and all who make, administer and judge our laws. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C hear our prayer.
- C hear our prayer.
- P (Special Petitions)
- **C** hear our prayer.
- Merciful Lord, Your Word became flesh and dwelt among us. This day we rejoice that our sins are forgiven in the washing of Baptism, the declaration of absolution, and the eating and drinking of the body and blood of our Lord, Jesus Christ. Continually strengthen our faith through Your Word, and prepare our hearts to faithfully receive this divine gift, which brings the immortal body and blood of Jesus to our very lips. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C hear our prayer.
- **P** Faithful God, strengthen us against all temptation and guard our steps, that in our weakness or in our liberty, we do not cause others to sin. Lord, in Your mercy,
- **C** hear our prayer.
- Almighty and everlasting God, deliver us from temptation and the powers of evil, that we may be faithful unto death and receive from Your hand the crown of everlasting life. Whether we live or die, we belong to You. Comfort us with this promise, that we may join the company of the saints on Your appointed day and enter into the heavenly places to worship at Your throne on high; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forevermore.
- C Amen.

OFFERING

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

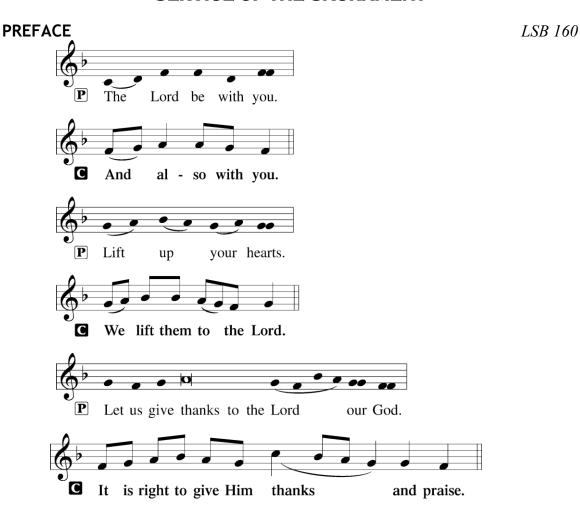
Stand

OFFERTORY





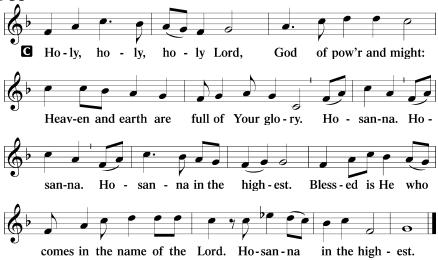
+SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT+



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

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

SANCTUS LSB 161



PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

LSB 161

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

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

C Amen.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on 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."

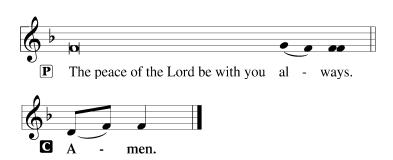
In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My + blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

- 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.
- 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:

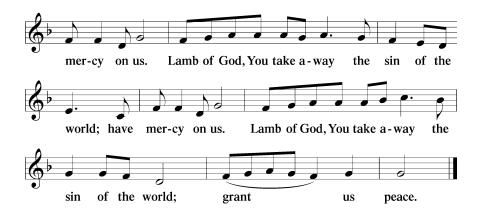
LORD'S PRAYER

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





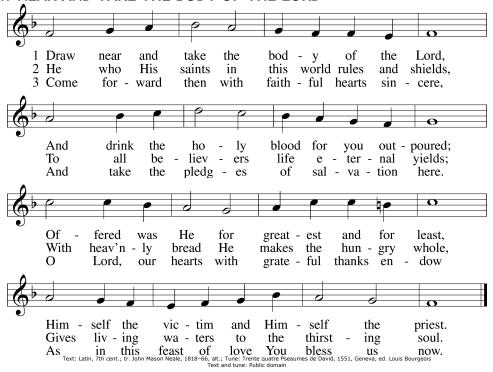


Sit

DISTRIBUTION

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

637 DRAW NEAR AND TAKE THE BODY OF THE LORD

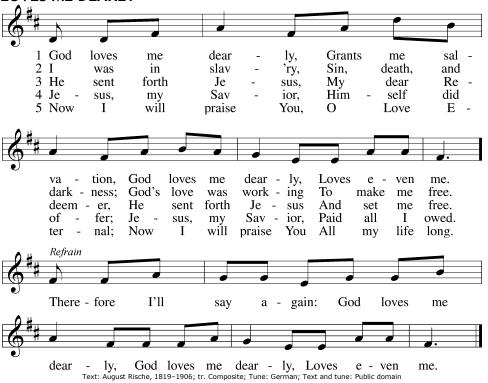


850 GOD OF GRACE AND GOD OF GLORY

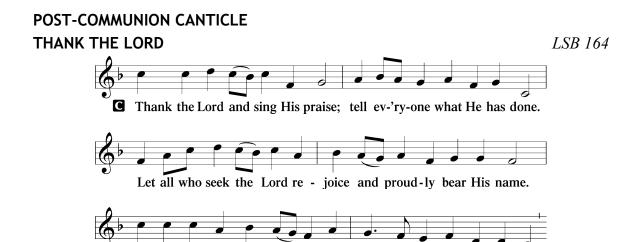




392 GOD LOVES ME DEARLY



Stand



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



POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

A Let us pray.

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

C Amen.

BENEDICTION LSB 166

The Lord bless you and keep you.

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

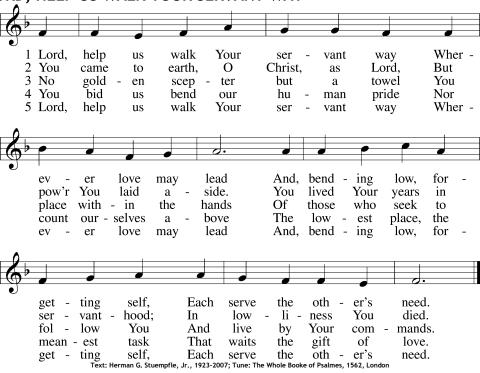
The Lord look upon you with favor and H give you peace.

C Amen.



CLOSING HYMN

857 LORD, HELP US WALK YOUR SERVANT WAY



DISMISSAL

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

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READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY: Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Ruth 1:1 – 19a; 2 Timothy 2:1 – 13; Luke 17:11-19

SAINT DAYS, FEAST DAYS, & COMMEMORATIONS THIS WEEK

Tuesday, October 7th: Henry Melchior Muhlenberg – Pastor Thursday, October 9th: Abraham – Patriarch Saturday, October 11th: Philip the Deacon

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

1 Thessalonians 5:18 (ESV)

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

Hebrews 12:1

		THIS WEEK AT MESSIAH LUTHERAN
TUES	10:00	Bible Study with Pastor
	3:00	LWML Meeting
	6:00	Men's Potluck Bible Study (NEW Women's Study next week!)
WED	11 - 3	'Loaves & Fishes' Food Pantry: Volunteers always needed!
THURS	9 - 12	LWML Quilter's Group with Devotional

STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT

"So you also, when you have done all that you were commanded, say, "We are unworthy servants; we have only done what was our duty."

Luke 17:10

We can never put God in our debt. Even if we lived in perfect compliance with the Law, we would still only be unworthy servants. Our giving to the Lord's work in the church is a sign that we recognize our role as servants. Furthermore, we give because we recognize our own need for that work of the Lord in the church. And what a blessing it is to give to the church so that the ministry of His Word and Sacraments may reach all in our community.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & REMINDERS

A MESSAGE FROM THE LONG-RANGE PLANNING COMMITTEE

After several meetings and multiple drafts, we have finally created a Vision Statement for our church! The Mission Statement reflects our united goal, and the Vision Statement helps to outline how we achieve that goal.

MISSION STATEMENT

The Mission of Messiah Lutheran is to develop and grow our relationship with God, sharing Christ's love through Worship, Education, and Service, offering Peace and Fellowship with all.

VISION STATEMENT

Leading the way as a beacon of hope, where we nurture a Christ-centered life through ministry to our unique community to inspire, transform, and serve.

冷 NEW! LADIES BIBLE STUDY **冷**

Mark your calendars! Starting **Tuesday, October 14th at 6:00 PM**, join us in the Fellowship Hall for our brand-new Ladies Bible Study. Come for the fellowship, stay for the faith—and don't forget to bring a dish to share! We can't wait to see you there with your Bible and your open heart!

