

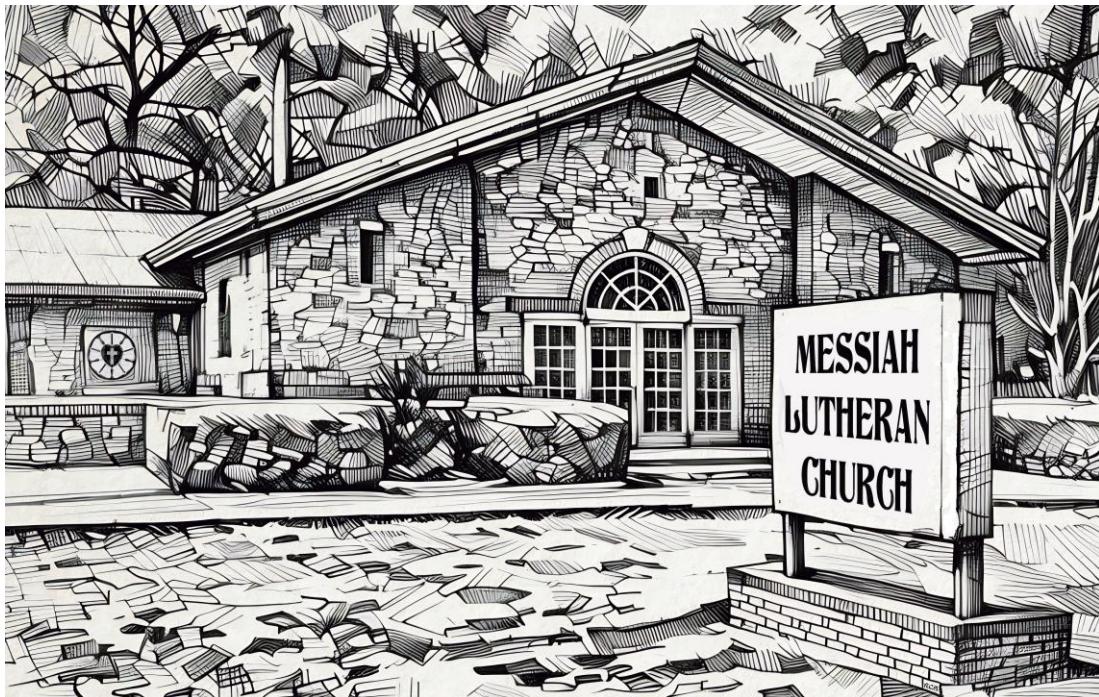
# *Messiah Lutheran Church*

## **VALDOSTA, GEORGIA**

500 Baytree Road – [messiahluth500@gmail.com](mailto:messiahluth500@gmail.com)  
Office: 229-244-0143 Pastor's Cell: 404-951-6336

Pastor Stephen Wareham  
[MessiahVLD Pastor@gmail.com](mailto:MessiahVLD Pastor@gmail.com)

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 4<sup>TH</sup>, 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).
- **INVITATION TO COMMUNION** The Sacrament of Holy Communion is offered to all baptized and prepared Christians who believe Christ is truly present with us in this meal. Trusting in the promises of his Word, “—given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins,” they intend to grow in faith by the power of the Holy Spirit working through this means of grace toward a more committed life with Jesus and His Church.
- **RECEIVING COMMUNION** Please extend your hand to receive the bread. Wine is offered from the Chalice or individual cups. Grape juice (center ring, lighter color) is offered for those who choose not to receive wine. After the Communion Assistant follows with the Chalice, place your empty cup on the communion rail rack. Children not yet prepared for the Sacrament may come forward for a blessing “that, living in the covenant of their Baptism and in communion with the Church, they may lead godly lives until the day of Jesus Christ.”
- **OPPORTUNITIES FOR CHRISTIAN GROWTH**

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

Sundays at 9:30 am: Sunday School: Grades 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> in the **Pine Tree House**.

Sundays at 9:15 am: Sunday School: Grades 6<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> in the **Pine Tree House**.

Tuesdays at 10:00 am: Tuesdays with the Pastor Bible Study in the **Fellowship Hall**.

Tuesday 6:00 pm: Pastor’s Men’s Potluck Bible Study in the **Pine Tree House**.

Tuesday 6:00 pm: Women’s Potluck Bible Study in the **Fellowship Hall**.

### **THE SECOND SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS 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**

*“In love he predestined us for adoption to himself as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will,” Ephesians 1:5*

There has never been a time when we were not sons of our Father. Jesus Christ is eternal, his forgiveness eternal, his salvation eternal, and therefore our status as sons of our Father, forgiven and redeemed members of the family of God, is 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.  
**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.*

**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

**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  $\ddagger$  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

## 850 GOD OF GRACE AND GOD OF GLORY

1 God of grace and God of glo - ry, On Your peo - ple  
 2 Lo, the hosts of e - vil round us Scorn the Christ, as -  
 3 Cure Your chil - dren's war - ring mad - ness; Bend our pride to  
 4 Save us from weak res - ig - na - tion To the e - vils

pour Your pow'r; Crown Your an - cient Church's sto - ry;  
 sail His ways! From the fears that long have bound us  
 Your con - trol; Shame our wan - ton, self - ish glad - ness,  
 we de - plore; Let the gift of Your sal - va - tion

Bring its bud to glo - rious flow'r. Grant us wis - dom,  
 Free our hearts to faith and praise. Grant us wis - dom,  
 Rich in things and poor in soul. Grant us wis - dom,  
 Be our glo - ry ev - er - more. Grant us wis - dom,

grant us cour - age For the fac - ing of this  
 grant us cour - age For the liv - ing of these  
 grant us cour - age Lest we miss Your king - dom's  
 grant us cour - age, Serv - ing You whom we a -

hour, For the fac - ing of this hour.  
 days, For the liv - ing of these days.  
 goal, Lest we miss Your king - dom's goal.  
 dore, Serv - ing You whom we a - dore.

Text: Harry Emerson Fosdick, 1878-1969; Tune: John Hughes, 1873-1932; Text and tune: Public domain

**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.



All who heard him were amazed at his  
UNDERSTANDING  
LUKE 2:47

## THIS IS THE FEAST

*Refrain*

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

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

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

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



## SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And also with you.

**P** Let us pray.

Almighty God, You have poured into our hearts the true Light of Your incarnate Word. Grant that this Light may shine forth in our lives; 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*

## OLD TESTAMENT READING

*1 Kings 3:4–15*

<sup>4</sup> The king went to Gibeon to sacrifice there, for that was the great high place. Solomon used to offer a thousand burnt offerings on that altar. <sup>5</sup>At Gibeon the LORD appeared to Solomon in a dream by night, and God said, “Ask what I shall give you.” <sup>6</sup>And Solomon said, “You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant David my father, because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart toward you. And you have kept for him this great and steadfast love and have given him a son to sit on his throne this day. <sup>7</sup>And now, O LORD my God, you have made your servant king in place of David my father, although I am but a little child. I do not know how to go out or come in. <sup>8</sup>And your servant is in the midst of your people whom you have chosen, a great people, too many to be numbered or counted for multitude. <sup>9</sup>Give your servant therefore an understanding mind to govern your people, that I may discern between good and evil, for who is able to govern this your great people?”

<sup>10</sup>It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. <sup>11</sup>And God said to him, “Because you have asked this, and have not asked for yourself long life or riches or the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, <sup>12</sup>behold, I now do according to your word. Behold, I give you a wise and discerning mind, so that none like you has been before you and none like you shall arise after you. <sup>13</sup>I give you also what you have not asked, both riches and honor, so that no other king shall compare with you, all your days. <sup>14</sup>And if you will walk in my ways, keeping my statutes and my commandments, as your father David walked, then I will lengthen your days.”

<sup>15</sup>And Solomon awoke, and behold, it was a dream. Then he came to Jerusalem and stood before the ark of the covenant of the LORD, and offered up burnt offerings and peace offerings, and made a feast for all his servants.

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

## EPISTLE

*Ephesians 1:3–14*

### Spiritual Blessings in Christ

<sup>3</sup>Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, <sup>4</sup>even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the

world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love <sup>5</sup>he predestined us for adoption as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, <sup>6</sup>to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved. <sup>7</sup>In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace, <sup>8</sup>which he lavished upon us, in all wisdom and insight <sup>9</sup>making known to us the mystery of his will, according to his purpose, which he set forth in Christ <sup>10</sup>as a plan for the fullness of time, to unite all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth.

<sup>11</sup>In him we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to the purpose of him who works all things according to the counsel of his will, <sup>12</sup>so that we who were the first to hope in Christ might be to the praise of his glory. <sup>13</sup>In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, <sup>14</sup>who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory.

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

*Stand*

### ALLELUIA AND VERSE

*LSB 173*



**C** Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?  
You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

### HOLY GOSPEL

*Luke 2:40–52*

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the second chapter.

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

<sup>40</sup>The child [Jesus] grew and became strong, filled with wisdom. And the favor of God was upon him.

#### The Boy Jesus in the Temple

<sup>41</sup>Now his parents went to Jerusalem every year at the Feast of the Passover. <sup>42</sup>And when he was twelve years old, they went up according to custom. <sup>43</sup>And when the feast was ended, as they were returning, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem. His parents did not know it, <sup>44</sup>but supposing him to be in the group they went a day's journey, but then they began to search for him among their relatives and acquaintances, <sup>45</sup>and when they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem, searching for him. <sup>46</sup>After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. <sup>47</sup>And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. <sup>48</sup>And when his parents saw him, they were astonished. And his mother said to him, “Son, why have you treated us so? Behold, your father and I have been searching for you in great distress.” <sup>49</sup>And he said to them, “Why were you looking for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?” <sup>50</sup>And they did not understand the saying that he spoke to them. <sup>51</sup>And he went down with them and came to Nazareth and was submissive to them. And his mother treasured up all these things in her heart.

<sup>52</sup>And Jesus increased in wisdom and in stature and in favor with God and man.

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

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

*Sit*

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE



## HYMN OF THE DAY

### 686 COME, THOU FOUNT OF EVERY BLESSING

1 Come, Thou Fount of ev - 'ry bless - ing, Tune my heart to  
2 Here I raise my Eb - en - e - zer, Hith - er by Thy  
3 Oh, to grace how great a debt - or Dai - ly I'm con -  
4 Oh, that day when freed from sin - ning, I shall see Thy

sing Thy grace; Streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas - ing,  
help I've come; And I hope, by Thy good plea - sure,  
strained to be; Let that grace now like a fet - ter  
love - ly face; Clothed then in the blood - washed lin - en,

Call for songs of loud - est praise. While the hope of end - less  
Safe - ly to ar - rive at home. Je - sus sought me when a  
Bind my wan-d'ring heart to Thee: Prone to wan - der, Lord, I  
How I'll sing Thy won-drous grace! Come, my Lord, no long - er

glo - ry Fills my heart with joy and love, Teach me  
strang - er, Wan - d'ring from the fold of God; He, to  
feel it; Prone to leave the God I love. Here's my  
tar - ry; Take my ran - som'd soul a - way; Send Thine

ev - er to a - dore Thee; May I still Thy good - ness prove.  
res - cue me from dan - ger, In - ter - posed His pre - cious blood.  
heart, O take and seal it, Seal it for Thy courts a - bove.  
an - gels soon to car - ry Me to realms of end - less day.

Text: Robert Robinson, 1735-90, alt.; Tune: Repository of Sacred Music, Part Second, 1813, Harrisburg; Text and tune: Public domain

## SERMON

*Stand*

## PASTOR STEPHEN WAREHAM

## 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** Almighty God, we give thanks for all Your goodness and bless You for the love that sustains us from day to day. We praise You for the gift of Your Son, our Savior, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. We thank You for the Holy Spirit, the Comforter; for Your holy Church, for the means of grace, for the lives of all faithful and just people, and for the hope of the life to come. Help us to treasure in our hearts all that You have done for us, and enable us to show our thankfulness in lives that are wholly given to Your service. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** hear our prayer.

**P** Save and defend Your whole Church, purchased with the precious blood of Christ. Strengthen Your faithful people through the Word and the holy Sacraments, making them perfect in love and in all good works, and establishing in them the faith once delivered to the saints. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** hear our prayer.

**P** Grant Your wisdom and heavenly grace to all pastors and to those who hold office in Your Church that, by their devoted service, faith may abound and Your kingdom increase. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** hear our prayer.

**P** Send the light of Your truth into all the earth. Raise up faithful servants of Christ to advance the Gospel both at home and in distant lands. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** hear our prayer.

**P** In Your mercy strengthen newly established congregations, and support them in challenging times. Make them steadfast, abounding in the work of the Lord, and let their faith and zeal for the Gospel refresh and renew the witness of Your people everywhere. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** hear our prayer.

**P** Preserve our nation in justice and honor that we may lead a peaceable life with integrity. Grant health and favor to all who bear office in our land, especially President Donald Trump. Help them to serve this people according to Your holy will. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** hear our prayer.

**P** (Special Petitions)

**C** hear our prayer.

**P** Take from us all hatred and prejudice, give us the spirit of love, and order our days in Your peace. Prosper the labor of those who work to bring peace and justice to the nations of the

world that mutual understanding and common endeavor may be increased among all peoples. Lord, in Your mercy,

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

**P** Bless the schools of the Church and all colleges, universities, and centers of research and those who teach and work in them. Grant Your wisdom in such measure that people may serve You honorably in Church and state, and that our common life may be conformed to the ways of Your truth. Lord, in Your mercy,

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

**P** Sanctify our homes with Your presence, and bless them with joy. Keep our children in the covenant of their Baptism, and enable their parents to bring them up in lives of faith and devotion. Unite the members of all families in a spirit of affection and service that they may show Your praise in our land and in all the world. Lord, in Your mercy,

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

**P** Let Your blessing remain upon the seedtime and harvest, the commerce and industry, the leisure and rest, the arts and culture of our people. Take under Your special protection those whose work is difficult or dangerous, and be with all who put their hands to any useful task. Give them the just rewards for their labor and the knowledge that their work is a blessing in Your sight. Lord, in Your mercy,

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

**P** By Your Word and Holy Spirit comfort all who are in sorrow or need, sickness or adversity (especially *[name]*). Be with those who suffer persecution for the faith. Have mercy on those to whom death draws near (especially *[name]*). Bring consolation to those in sorrow, and grant to all a measure of Your love, taking them into Your tender care. Lord, in Your mercy,

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

**P** (Special Petitions)

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

**P** We remember with thanksgiving those who have loved and served You in Your Church on earth, who now rest from their labors. Keep us in fellowship with all Your saints and bring us at last to the joys of Your heavenly kingdom. 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 blessing. 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  
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## +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.

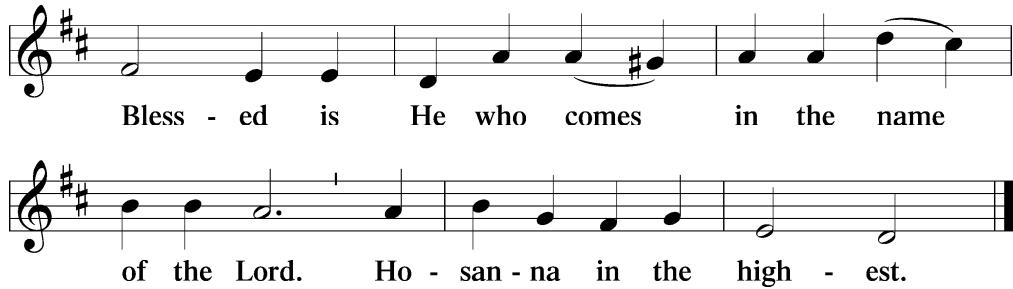
### PROPER PREFACE

- 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, 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

LSB 178

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.



## 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  $\text{\tfrac{X}{P}}$  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  $\text{\tfrac{X}{P}}$  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

## 395 O MORNING STAR, HOW FAIR AND BRIGHT

1 O Morning Star, how fair and bright! You shine with God's light.  
 2 Come, heav'n-ly Bride-groom, Light di-vine, And deep with - in.  
 3 Lord, when You look on us in love, At once there falls.  
 4 Al - might - y Fa - ther, in Your Son You loved us when.  
 own truth and light, A - glow with grace and mer - cy!  
 our hearts now shine; There light a flame un - dy - ing!  
 from God a - bove A ray of pur - est plea - sure.  
 not yet be - gun Was this old earth's foun - da - tion!

Of Ja - cob's race, King Da - vid's son, Our Lord and mas -  
 In Your one bod - y let us be As liv - ing branch -  
 Your Word and Spir - it, flesh and blood Re - fresh our souls  
 Your Son has ran - somed us in love To live in Him

ter, You have won Our hearts to serve You on - ly!  
 es of a tree, Your life our lives sup - ply - ing.  
 with heav'n-ly food. You are our dear - est trea - sure!  
 here and a - bove: This is Your great sal - va - tion.

Low - ly, ho - ly! Great and glo-rious, All vic - to - rious,  
 Now, though dai - ly Earth's deep sad - ness May per - plex us  
 Let Your mer - cy Warm and cheer us! O draw near us!  
 Al - le - lu - ia! Christ the liv - ing, To us giv - ing

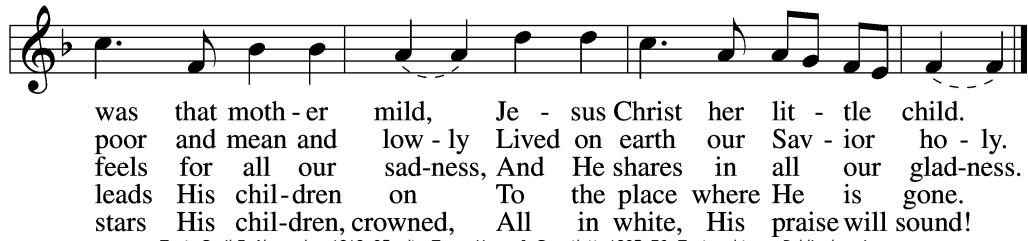
Rich in bless - ing! Rule and might o'er all pos - sess - ing!  
 And dis - tress us, Yet with heav'n - ly joy You bless us.  
 For You teach us God's own love through You has reached us.  
 Life for - ev - er, Keeps us Yours and fails us nev - er!

### 376 ONCE IN ROYAL DAVID'S CITY

1 Once in roy - - al Da - vid's cit - y Stood a  
 2 He came down to earth from heav - en, Who is  
 3 For He is our child - hood's pat - tern, Day by  
 4 And our eyes at last shall see Him, Through His  
 5 Not in that poor, low - ly sta - ble With the

low - ly cat - tle shed, Where a moth - er laid her  
 God and Lord of all, And His shel - ter was a  
 day like us He grew; He was lit - tle, weak, and  
 own re - deem - ing love; For that child so dear and  
 ox - en stand - ing by Shall we see Him, but in

ba - by In a man - ger for His bed: Mar - y  
 sta - ble, And His cra - dle was a stall; With the  
 help - less, Tears and smiles like us He knew; And He  
 gen - tle Is our Lord in heav'n a - bove; And He  
 heav - en, Set at God's right hand on high. Then like



Text: Cecil F. Alexander, 1818-95, alt.; Tune: Henry J. Gauntlett, 1805-76; Text and tune: Public domain



WHO HAS BLESSED  
US WITH EVERY  
BLESSING IN HEAVEN  
BECAUSE WE BELONG  
TO C·H·R·I·S·T

EPHESIANS 1:3

### 386 NOW SING WE, NOW REJOICE



1 Now sing we, now re - joice, Now raise to heav'n our voice;  
2 Come from on high to me; I can - not rise to Thee.  
3 Now through His Son doth shine The Fa-ther's grace di - vine.  
4 Oh, where shall joy be found? Where but on heav'n - ly ground?



He from whom joy stream - eth Poor in a man-ger lies;  
Cheer my wea-ried spir - it, O pure and ho - ly Child;  
Death was reign - ing o'er us Through sin and van - i - ty  
Where the an - gels sing - ing With all His saints u - nite,



Not so bright - ly beam - eth The sun in yon - der skies.  
Through Thy grace and mer - it, Blest Je - sus, Lord most mild,  
Till He o - pened for us A bright e - ter - ni - ty.  
Sweet - est prais - es bring - ing In heav'n - ly joy and light.

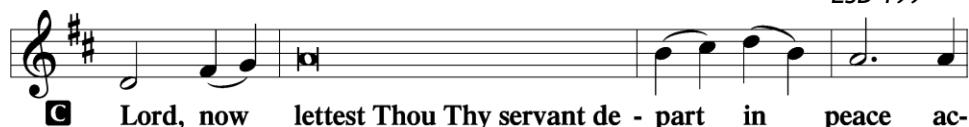


Text: Latin and German, 14th cent.; tr. Arthur T. Russell, 1806-74, alt.; Tune: German, 14th cent.; Text and tune: Public domain

Stand

### POST COMMUNION CANTICLE NUNC DIMITTIS

LSB 199



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.

### POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

**A** Let us pray.

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

**C** Amen.

### BENEDICTION

*LSB 183*

**P** The Lord bless you and keep you.

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

The Lord look upon you with favor and  $\text{☩}$  give you peace.

**C** Amen.

### CLOSING HYMN

#### 556 DEAR CHRISTIANS, ONE AND ALL, REJOICE

*sts. 1, 5-7, 10*

1 Dear Chris-tians, one and all, re - joice, With ex - ul - ta - tion  
 5 God said to His be - lov - ed Son: "It's time to have com -  
 6 The Son o - beyed His Fa-ther's will, Was born of vir - gin  
 7 To me He said: "Stay close to Me, I am your rock and  
 10 "What I on earth have done and taught Guide all your life and

spring-ing, And with u - nit - ed heart and voice And ho - ly  
 pas - sion. Then go, bright jew - el of My crown, And bring to  
 moth - er; And God's good plea - sure to ful - fill, He came to  
 cas - tle. Your ran - som I My - self will be; For you I  
 teach - ing; So shall the king-dom's work be wrought And hon - ored

rap - ture sing - ing, Pro - claim the won - ders God has done, How  
 all sal - va - tion. From sin and sor - row set them free; Slay  
 be my broth - er. His roy - al pow'r dis-guised He bore; A  
 striveand wres - tle. For I am yours, and you are Mine, And  
 in your preach - ing. But watch lest foes with base al - loy The

His right arm the vic - t'ry won. What price our ran - som cost Him!  
 bit - ter death for them that they May live with You for - ev - er."  
 ser - vant's form, like mine, He wore To lead the dev - il cap - tive.  
 where I am you may re-main; The foe shall not di - vide us.  
 heav'n-ly trea - sure should de-stroy; This fi - nal word I leave you."

Text: Martin Luther, 1483-1546; tr. Richard Massie, 1800-87, alt.; Tune: Etlich Cristlich lider, 1524, Wittenberg; Text and tune: Public domain

## DISMISSAL

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

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

Tuesday, January 6<sup>th</sup>: The Epiphany of our Lord

Saturday, January 10<sup>th</sup>: Basil the Great of Caesarea – Pastor & Confessor

Saturday, January 10<sup>th</sup>: Gregory of Nazianzus – Pastor & Confessor

Saturday, January 10<sup>th</sup>: Gregory of Nyssa – Pastor & Confessor

## READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY: The Baptism of Our Lord

Isaiah 42:1 – 9; Romans 6:1 – 11; Matthew 3:13 – 17

*"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 (4<sup>th</sup>) (White)      Serving NEXT week (11<sup>th</sup>) (White)

<b>OFFICIANT</b>	Pastor Wareham	<b>OFFICIANT</b>	Pastor Wareham
<b>LECTOR</b>	Lisa Hill	<b>LECTOR</b>	John Obermann
<b>COMM. ASST.</b>	Paul Hill	<b>COMM. ASST.</b>	Larry Lorden
<b>ALTAR CARE</b>	Heather Miller	<b>ALTAR CARE</b>	Carol Walters
<b>ACOLYTE</b>	Don Brugel	<b>ACOLYTE</b>	JM Pellicone
<b>GREETER</b>	Karin Boles	<b>GREETER</b>	Heather Miller
<b>USHER 1</b>	George Vincent	<b>USHER 1</b>	Don Brugel
<b>USHER 2</b>	Ken Eldridge	<b>USHER 2</b>	Curt Fahsholz
<b>ELDER</b>	Mike DiMarco	<b>ELDER</b>	Paul Hill

ORGAN/PIANO	Kay Vincent	ORGAN/PIANO	Kay Vincent
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### † THIS WEEK AT MESSIAH LUTHERAN †

TUES	10:00	Bible Study with Pastor
	6:00	NO Men's Potluck Bible Study – Pastor at Circuit Meeting
THURS	9 – 12	Quilter's Group with Devotional

### STEWARSHIP THOUGHT

*“And he said to them, ‘Why were you looking for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father’s house?’”*  
Luke 2:49

What a privilege the Lord has given to us by calling us to come to His house! It is not a burden but rather an honor and a blessing for us to always be able to come to a place where we know God is present for us in His gifts of Word and Sacrament. Likewise, the Lord has honored us by allowing us to support the work of His house with our tithes and offerings.

### 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.

Search the cushions, search the seat,  
Your extra change makes giving sweet!  
*Thank you for sharing cheerfully!*



### CELEBRATING THE IMPACT OF OUR BAZAAR!

Thanks to the generosity of our congregation and community, proceeds from this year's Bazaar were shared with the following ministries and organizations:

- LWML Florida-Georgia District
- Messiah Lutheran Food Pantry
- Jacob's Ladder Therapeutic Riding Center
- ACTO
- Hospice – Camp Lean On Me
- Second Harvest – Kids' Café
- United Way – The Haven
- Redeeming Life Outreach Ministries (Maternity Home)
- QUOLA Community Soup Kitchen
- Shop With A Cop

**Thank you for turning fellowship, fun, and faithful giving into meaningful blessings for our community and beyond!**

### CELEBRATING OUR QUILTERS!

Thanks to the amazing Quilter's Group, 11 beautiful quilts have been donated to the Georgia Sheriff's Boys Ranch—bringing warmth, comfort, and God's love to those who need it most!