

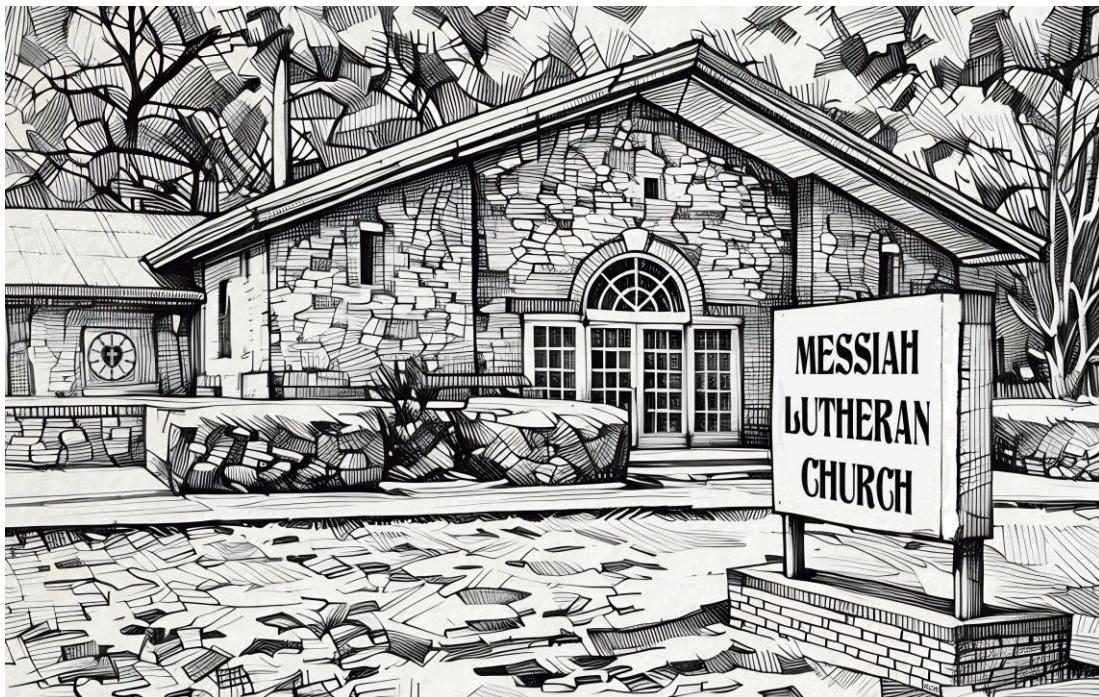
Messiah Lutheran Church

VALDOSTA, GEORGIA

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Pastor Stephen Wareham
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SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 8TH, 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 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: 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.

FIFTH 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

It can seem an impossible task, to exceed the righteousness of some people around us. But righteousness doesn't come from man, from us, or even from following the Law. It comes from Jesus Christ, who alone is truly righteous. Out of his great love for us, He shares his righteousness with us, asking only one thing: that we believe in Him.

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 \ddagger 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 \ddagger Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

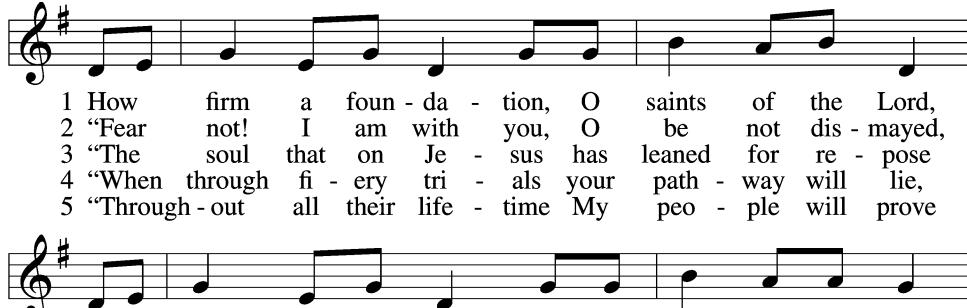
SHARING PEACE:

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

+SERVICE OF THE WORD+

ENTRANCE HYMN

728 HOW FIRM A FOUNDATION



1 How firm a foun - da - tion, O saints of the Lord,
2 "Fear not! I am with you, O be not dis - mayed,
3 "The soul that on Je - sus has leaned for re - pose
4 "When through fi - ery tri - als your path - way will lie,
5 "Through - out all their life - time My peo - ple will prove

Is laid for your faith in His ex - cel - lent Word!
For I am your God and will still give you aid;
I will not, I will not, de - sert to his foes;
My grace, all - suf - fi - cient, will be your sup - ply.
My sov - 'reign, e - ter - nal, un - change - a - ble love;

What more can He say than to you He has said
 I'll strength - en you, help you, and cause you to stand,
 That soul, though all hell should en - deav - or to shake,
 The flames will not hurt you; I on - ly de - sign
 And then, when gray hairs will their tem - ples a - dorn,

Who un - to the Sav - ior for ref - uge have fled?
 Up - held by My righ - teous, om - nip - o - tent hand.
 I'll nev - er, no nev - er, no nev - er, for - sake!
 Your dross to con - sume and your gold to re - fine.
 Like lambs they will still in My bos - om be borne."

Text: A Selection of Hymns, 1787, London, alt.; Tune: Genuine Church Music, 1832, Winchester; 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, heav - 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
 Father; 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,
 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.

O Lord, keep Your family the Church continually in the true faith that, relying on the hope of Your heavenly grace, we may ever be defended by Your mighty power; 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

Isaiah 58:3-9a

³““Why have we fasted, and you see it not?

Why have we humbled ourselves, and you take no knowledge of it?”

Behold, in the day of your fast you seek your own pleasure, and oppress all your workers.

⁴Behold, you fast only to quarrel and to fight and to hit with a wicked fist.

Fasting like yours this day will not make your voice to be heard on high.

⁵Is such the fast that I choose, a day for a person to humble himself?

Is it to bow down his head like a reed, and to spread sackcloth and ashes under him? Will you call this a fast, and a day acceptable to the LORD?

⁶“Is not this the fast that I choose:

to loose the bonds of wickedness, to undo the straps of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke?

⁷Is it not to share your bread with the hungry and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover him, and not to hide yourself from your own flesh?

⁸Then shall your light break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up speedily; your righteousness shall go before you; the glory of the LORD shall be your rear guard.

⁹Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer; you shall cry, and he will say, ‘Here I am.’”

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE*I Corinthians 2:1–16*

¹And I, when I came to you, brothers, did not come proclaiming to you the testimony of God with lofty speech or wisdom. ²For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified. ³And I was with you in weakness and in fear and much trembling, ⁴and my speech and my message were not in plausible words of wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power, ⁵that your faith might not rest in the wisdom of men but in the power of God.

⁶Yet among the mature we do impart wisdom, although it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are doomed to pass away. ⁷But we impart a secret and hidden wisdom of God, which God decreed before the ages for our glory. ⁸None of the rulers of this age understood this, for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. ⁹But, as it is written,

“What no eye has seen, nor ear heard,
nor the heart of man imagined,
what God has prepared for those who love him”—

¹⁰these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit. For the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. ¹¹For who knows a person’s thoughts except the spirit of that person, which is in him? So also no one comprehends the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God.

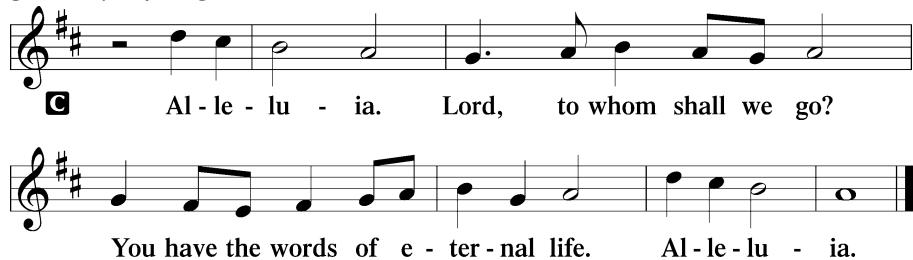
¹²Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might understand the things freely given us by God. ¹³And we impart this in words not taught by human wisdom but taught by the Spirit, interpreting spiritual truths to those who are spiritual.

¹⁴The natural person does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are folly to him, and he is not able to understand them because they are spiritually discerned. ¹⁵The spiritual person judges all things, but is himself to be judged by no one. ¹⁶“For who has understood the mind of the Lord so as to instruct him?” But we have the mind of Christ.

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

Matthew 5:13 – 20

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the fifth chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹³[Jesus said:] “You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything except to be thrown out and trampled under people’s feet.

¹⁴“You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. ¹⁵Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. ¹⁶In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.

¹⁷“Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them. ¹⁸For truly, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the Law until all is accomplished. ¹⁹Therefore whoever relaxes one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. ²⁰For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sit

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

HYMN OF THE DAY

578 THY STRONG WORD

1 Thy strong word did cleave the dark - ness; At Thy
2 Lo, on those who dwelt in dark - ness, Dark as
3 Thy strong Word be - speaks us righ - teous; Bright with
4 From the cross Thy wis - dom shin - ing Break - eth

spea - ing it was done. For cre - at - ed
night and deep as death, Broke the light of
Thine own ho - li - ness, Glo - rious now, we -
forth in con - qu'ring might; From the cross for -

light we thank Thee, While Thine or - dered sea - sons run.
Thy sal - va - tion, Breathed Thine own life - breath - ing breath.
press toward glo - ry, And our lives our hopes con - fess.
ev - er beam - eth All Thy bright re - deem - ing light.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Praise to
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Praise to
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Praise to
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Praise to

VERSE 5

Give us lips to sing Thy glory, tongues Thy mercy to proclaim,
Throats that shout the hope that fills us, Mouths to speak Thy holy name.

Alleluia, alleluia! May the light which Thou dost send
Fill our songs with alleluias, Alleluias without end!

VERSE 6

△God the Father, light-creator, to Thee laud and honor be.
To Thee, Light of Light begotten, praise be sung eternally.
Holy Spirit, light-revealer, glory, glory be to Thee.
Mortals, angels, now and ever praise the holy Trinity!

Text: Martin H. Franzmann, 1907-76; Tune: Thomas J. Williams, 1869-1944
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SERMON

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 In peace, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For counsel and aid for those who cry to the Lord in weakness and in need, that the Lord would bless and prosper His Church so that she may be salt and light, giving bold witness to the

redemption provided in Jesus Christ and giving shape to God's love by showing compassion to all in need, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For our Synod, her congregations and schools, her pastors, teachers, deaconesses, musicians and all her faithful servants, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For the Synod convention this summer and those who are making preparations, especially those gathering nominations for elected office, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For our homes, husbands and wives, the children in their care and extended family, that the Lord would guide us to serve each other in love; and that our homes would become places of blessing and peace where God's Word is spoken, forgiveness is shown and love is demonstrated in word and deed, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For the rulers of this age whom God has placed in authority, that they may fulfill their duties in wisdom, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For the sick, the suffering, the grieving and the dying, *[especially _____]* that they would receive healing, relief, comfort and peace according to the Lord's will; and that they would be delivered from their afflictions, sustained in their struggles and be granted patience in their adversities, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P (Special Petitions)

C **hear our prayer.**

P For those who commune this day, that Christ, whose righteousness goes before us and whose glory is our rearguard, would visit His people at the altar with grace and salvation, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For the mind of Christ, that we would not dismiss His gifts as folly, but judge and discern all things according to His wisdom, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P All these things we pray, O Lord, in confidence of Your mercy. Supply us with all things needed and beneficial to us and to our faith, and keep from us all things harmful, that we may rest our fears in You and be granted a clear conscience and peace; through Jesus Christ, 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

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 $\text{\tfrac{X}{P}}$ 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.*

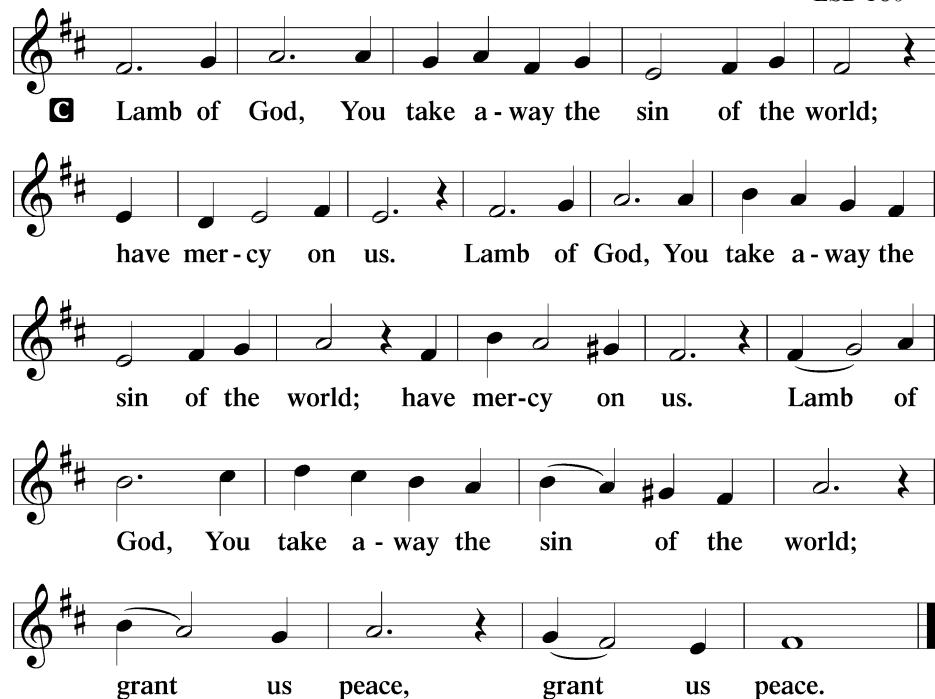
PAX DOMINI

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

568 IF YOUR BELOVED SON, O GOD

1 If Your be - lov - ed Son, O God, Had not to earth de -
 2 But now I find sweet peace and rest; De - spair no more reigns
 3 I trust in Him with all my heart; Now all my sor - row
 4 All righ-teous-ness by works is vain; The Law brings con - dem -
 △ 5 My guilt, O Fa - ther, You have laid On Christ, Your Son, my

scend - ed And in our mor - tal flesh and blood Had not sin's
 o'er me. No more am I by sin op - pressed, For Christ has
 ceas - es. His words a - bid - ing peace im - part; His blood from
 na - tion. True righ-teous-ness by faith I gain; Christ's work is
 Sav - ior. Lord Je - sus, You my debt have paid And gained for

pow - er end - ed, Then this poor, wretch-ed soul of mine In
 borne sin for me. Up - on the cross for me He died That,
 guilt re - leas - es. Free grace through Him I now ob - tain; He
 my sal - va - tion. His death, that per - fect sac - ri - fice, Has
 me God's fa - vor. O Ho - ly Spir - it, Fount of grace, The

hell e - ter - nal - ly would pine Be - cause of my trans - gres - sion.
 rec - on-ciled, I might a - bide With You, my God, for - ev - er.
 wash-es me from ev - 'ry stain, And pure I stand be - fore Him.
 paid the all - suf - fi - cent price; In Him my hope is an - chored.
 good in me to You I trace; In faith and hope pre - serve me.

Text: tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.; (sts. 1-4): Johann Heermann, 1585-1647; (st. 5): Neu-vermehrtes . . . Gesangbuch, 1661, Braunschweig
 Tune: Etlich Cristlich lieder, 1524, Wittenberg; Text and tune: Public domain



398 HAIL TO THE LORD'S ANOINTED



1 Hail to the Lord's anoint-ed, Great Da-vid's great-er Son!
 2 He comes with res-cue speed-y To those who suf-fer wrong,
 3 He shall come down like show-ers Up-on the fruit-ful earth;
 4 Kings shall fall down be-fore Him And gold and in-cense bring;
 5 O'er ev-ry foe vic-to-rious, He on His throne shall rest,



Hail, in the time ap-point-ed, His reign on earth be-gun!
 To help the poor and need-y And bid the weak be strong;
 Love, joy, and hope, like flow-ers, Spring in His path to birth.
 All na-tions shall a-dore Him, His praise all peo-ple sing.
 From age to age more glo-rious, All bless-ing and all-blest.



He comes to break op-pres-sion, To set the cap-tive free,
 To give them songs for sigh-ing, Their dark-ness turn to light,
 Be-fore Him on the moun-tains Shall peace, the her-ald, go;
 To Him shall prayer un-ceas-ing And dai-ly vows as-cend;
 The tide of time shall nev-er His cov-e-nant re-move;



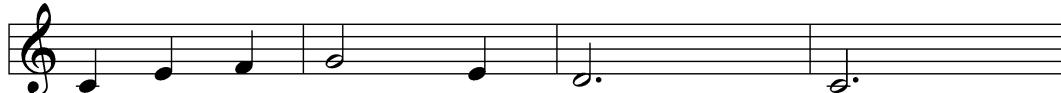
To take a-way trans-gres-sion And rule in eq-ui-ty.
 Whose souls, con-demned and dy-ing, Were pre-cious in His sight.
 And righ-teous-ness in foun-tains From hill to val-ley flow.
 His king-dom still in-creas-ing, A king-dom with-out end.
 His name shall stand for-ev-er—That name to us is Love.

Text: James Montgomery, 1771-1854, alt.; Tune: Leonhart Schröter, c. 1532-c. 1601; Text and tune: Public domain

411 I WANT TO WALK AS A CHILD OF THE LIGHT



1 I want to walk as a child of the light.
 2 I want to see the brightness of God.
 3 I'm look-ing for the com-ing of Christ.



I want to fol-low Je-sus.
 I want to look at Je-sus.
 I want to be with Je-sus.



God set the stars to give light to the world.
 Clear Sun of Righ-teous-ness, with shine on my path,
 When we have run with pa-tience,

The star of my life is Je sus.
And show me the way to the Fa ther.
We shall know the joy of Je sus.

Refrain

In Him there is no dark ness at all.
The night and the day are both a - like.
The Lamb is the light of the cit - y of God.
Shine in my heart, Lord Je sus.

Text and tune: Kathleen Thomerson, 1934–2025; Text and tune: © 1970, 1975 Celebration. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110000972

Stand

**POST COMMUNION CANTICLE
NUNC DIMITTIS**

LSB 199

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.

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 ☩ give you peace.

C Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

702 MY FAITH LOOKS UP TO THEE

1 My faith looks up to Thee, Thou Lamb of Cal - va - ry,
2 May Thy rich grace im - part Strength to my faint - ing heart;
3 While life's dark maze I tread And griefs a - round me spread,
4 When ends life's tran - sient dream, When death's cold, sul - len stream

Sav - ior di - vine. Now hear me while I pray; Take all my
My zeal in - spire! As Thou hast died for me, Oh, may my
Be Thou my guide; Bid dark - ness turn to day, Wipe sor - row's
Shall o'er me roll, Blest Sav - ior, then, in love, Fear and dis -

guilt a - way; O let me from this day Be whol - ly Thine!
love to Thee Pure, warm, and change - less be, A liv - ing fire!
tears a - way, Nor let me ev - er stray From Thee a - side.
trust re - move; O bear me safe a - bove, A ran - somed soul!

Text: Ray Palmer, 1808-87; Tune: Lowell Mason, 1792-1872; Text and tune: Public domain

DISMISSAL

P Go in peace, serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Acknowledgments: Divine Service, Setting One from the Lutheran Service Book. Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from the ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved. Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2025 Concordia Publishing House.

SAINT DAYS, FEAST DAYS, & COMMEMORATIONS THIS WEEK

Monday, February 10th: Silas, Fellow Worker of St. Peter & St. Paul

Friday, February 13th: Aquila, Priscilla, Apollos – Missionaries & Teachers of the Church

Saturday, February 14th: Valentine – Martyr

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY: Transfiguration of Our Lord Sunday

Exodus 24:8 – 18; 2 Peter 1:16 – 21; Matthew 17:1 – 9

"Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us." Hebrews 12:1

† THIS WEEK AT MESSIAH LUTHERAN †

MON	6:00	Church Council Meeting
TUES	10:00	Bible Study with Pastor
	6:00	Men's & Ladies' Potluck Bible Study
WED	11 – 3	Loaves & Fishes Food Pantry – <u>VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!</u>
THURS	9 – 12	Quilter's Group with Devotional

STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT

“Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them.”
Matthew 5:17

We cannot keep the Law of God perfectly. We are sinners. For us to be saved, Jesus had to fulfill the Law in our place so that the threat of the Law is abolished and the Law itself is upheld. Now, in Christ, we do desire to fulfill the Law, to live out a godly Christian life, precisely because we are so full of thanksgiving toward God for His salvation in Christ.

†ANNOUNCEMENTS & REMINDERS†

🔥🔥 TURN UP THE HEAT! MESSIAH'S 1ST ANNUAL CHILI COOK-OFF 🔥🔥

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 21st, 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!

LWML YARD SALE MAGIC & BAKE SALE BLISS

Saturday, March 21st | 8:00 AM – 1:00 PM

**Shop for treasures, enjoy homemade baked goods, and support a wonderful cause
AND proceeds go to charity!**

**BAKERS — we need you! Our bake sale is always a favorite,
and your homemade treats help make this event a success.**

Donation Drop-Off: Bring yard sale donations to the church on Thursday, March 19th, from 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM and Friday, March 20th, from 9 AM – 1 PM.

Volunteers will be available to receive items.

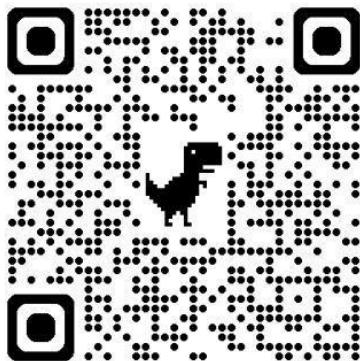
**Please see our flyers for more information about
restricted items and other guidelines.**

Questions? Please call Nan Boyd at 229-834-4881.

All monies go to charity. Thank you for helping make this event a blessing to others!

Scan the code and join the cause,

Together, we uphold God's laws.
A small gift plants a mighty seed—
Your love fulfills a real need.



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



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