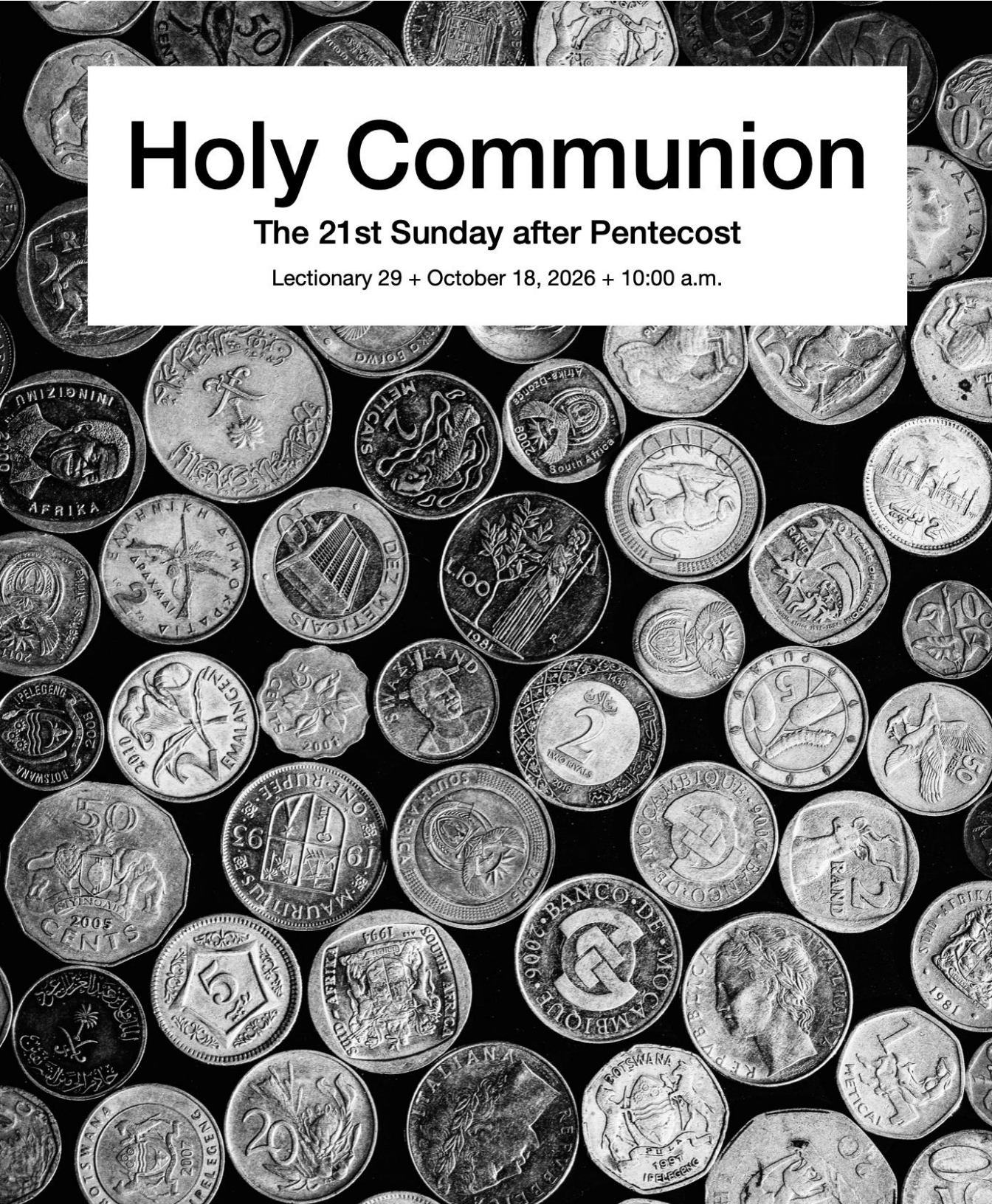




Holy Communion

The 21st Sunday after Pentecost

Lectionary 29 + October 18, 2026 + 10:00 a.m.

Welcome to Messiah Lutheran Church!

Peace be with you in this time after Pentecost. It is good to be together.

We are a community committed to the fostering of faith for young participants. Children are encouraged to participate fully in worship and are encouraged to growth through Sunday School. Classes for all ages are available at 9:00am.

Discover more about the congregation at our website messiahlyndhurst.org or on social media at facebook.com/MLC44124.

Prayer Concerns can be shared via email (pastor@messiahlyndhurst.org) or phone (440-442-6941). Please indicate if you would like your request to be considered for inclusion in worship or with our Prayer Partners prayer chain ministry.

The Sacrament of Holy Communion is celebrated weekly. Worshippers of all ages are welcome at Christ's Table. If Communion is new for you or a young one in your family, we invite you to have a conversation with Pastor Paul.

Serving in Worship Today:

Presiding Minister	The Rev. Paul Jones Moody
Assisting Minister	Kristy Bohinc
Organist	Adam Dellinger
Choir Director	Vicki Lester
Altar Guild	Twyla Lucas
Reader	Carol Lapin
Ushers	Robert and Twyla Lucas

5200 Mayfield Road, Lyndhurst, OH
440-442-6941
messiahlyndhurst.org

GATHERING

WELCOME

PRELUDE

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

*(All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism,
as the presiding minister begins.)*

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
who pours love into our hearts
and healing upon the earth.

Amen.

Confident that God justifies us by grace through faith,
let us confess our sin.

(Silence is kept for reflection.)

Compassionate God,
**we confess that we struggle to embody your goodness
in the world and in our own hearts.**

Creation groans from overuse.

Jealousy and bitterness strain our relationships.

Indifference keeps us from seeking justice.

**Divisions disrupt your call to show genuine love
to others.**

Turn our hearts back to you.

Restore our world and reconcile us to one another.

**Renew us to live as your holy people,
following the way of Jesus Christ.**

Amen.

Hear this good news:

We have peace with God through † Jesus Christ,
in whom there is no condemnation,
but only forgiveness and the promise of eternal life.
Receive freely this healing gift of grace.

Amen.

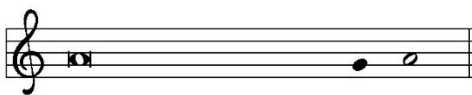
GATHERING HYMN

God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending
ELW #678

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
And also with you.

KYRIE



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



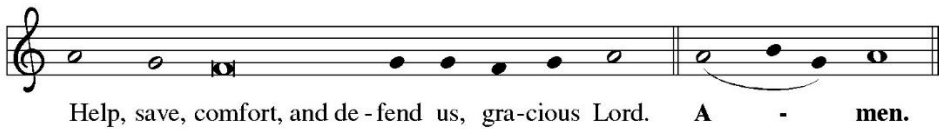
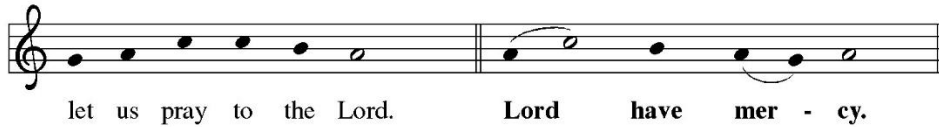
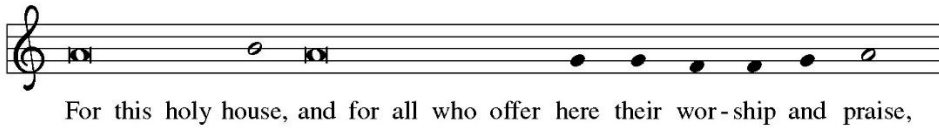
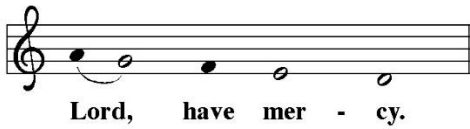
Lord, have mer - cy.



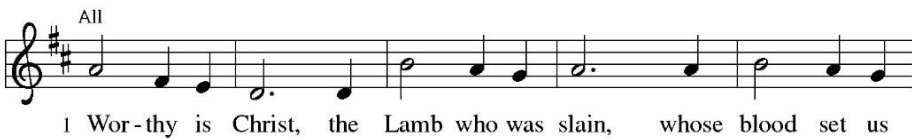
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



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



HYMN OF PRAISE





This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.



2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God and join in the



hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing and hon - or and glo - ry and



might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain



has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Sovereign God, raise your throne in our hearts. Created by you, let us live in your image; created for you, let us act for your glory; redeemed by you, let us give you what is yours, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

(Please be seated)

WORD

FIRST READING

Isaiah 45:1-7

The prophet announces that Cyrus the Persian emperor is the one the LORD has anointed to end Israel's exile. The LORD makes this choice so that the whole world will recognize this LORD as the only God. Persia had a god of light and a god of darkness; the LORD claims sovereignty over both light and darkness.

- ¹ Thus says the LORD to his anointed, to Cyrus,
whose right hand I have grasped
to subdue nations before him
and to strip kings of their robes,
to open doors before him—
and the gates shall not be closed:
- ² I will go before you
and level the mountains;
I will break in pieces the doors of bronze
and cut through the bars of iron;
- ³ I will give you the treasures of darkness
and riches hidden in secret places,
so that you may know that it is I, the LORD,
the God of Israel, who call you by your name.
- ⁴ For the sake of my servant Jacob
and Israel my chosen,
I call you by your name;
I give you a title, though you do not know me.
- ⁵ I am the LORD, and there is no other;
besides me there is no god.
I arm you, though you do not know me,
- ⁶ so that they may know, from the rising of the sun
and from the west, that there is no one besides me;
I am the LORD, and there is no other.
- ⁷ I form light and create darkness,
I make weal and create woe;
I the LORD do all these things.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Psalm 96:1-9 [10-13]



- ¹ Sing to the LORD | a new song;
sing to the LORD, | all the earth.
- ² **Sing to the LORD, bless the name | of the LORD;
proclaim God's salvation from | day to day.**
- ³ Declare God's glory a- | mong the nations
and God's wonders a- | mong all peoples.
- ⁴ **For great is the LORD and greatly | to be praised,
more to be feared | than all gods.**
- ⁵ As for all the gods of the nations, they | are but idols;
but you, O LORD, have | made the heavens.
- ⁶ **Majesty and magnificence are | in your presence;
power and splendor are in your | sanctuary.**
- ⁷ Ascribe to the LORD, you families | of the peoples,
ascribe to the LORD hon- | or and power.
- ⁸ **Ascribe to the LORD the honor due the | holy name;
bring offerings and enter the courts | of the LORD.**
- ⁹ Worship the LORD in the beau- | ty of holiness;
tremble before the LORD, | all the earth.
- [¹⁰ **Tell it out among the nations: "The | LORD is king!
The one who made the world so firm that it cannot be moved will
judge the peo- | ples with equity."**
- ¹¹ Let the heavens rejoice, and let the | earth be glad;
let the sea thunder and all that is in it; let the field be joyful and all that | is
therein.
- ¹² **Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy at your com- | ing,
O LORD,
for you come to | judge the earth.**
- ¹³ You will judge the | world with righteousness
and the peoples | with your truth.
-]

ANTHEM

When the Lightning Strikes
(from Reformation the Musical)
Gary Sironen
Martin Luther solo – Pastor Paul Moody

CHILDREN’S MOMENT

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

(Please rise)



GOSPEL

Matthew 22:15-22

After Jesus begins teaching in the temple, religious leaders try to trap him with questions. First they ask if God’s people should pay taxes to an earthly tyrant like Caesar.

The Holy Gospel According to Saint Matthew:

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹⁵ The Pharisees went and plotted to entrap [Jesus] in what he said. ¹⁶ So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, “Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one, for you do not regard people with partiality. ¹⁷ Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar or not?” ¹⁸ But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, “Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? ¹⁹ Show me the coin used for the tax.” And they brought him a denarius. ²⁰ Then he said to them, “Whose head is this and whose title?” ²¹ They answered, “Caesar’s.” Then he said to them, “Give therefore to Caesar the things that are Caesar’s and to God the things that are God’s.” ²² When they heard this, they were amazed, and they left him and went away.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

The Rev. Paul Jones Moody

(Please observe a moment of silence after the sermon)

HYMN OF THE DAY

*We Give Thee But Thine Own
ELW #686*

APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived
by the Holy Spirit,**

**born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Seeking the Spirit of God who makes all things new, we pray for the church and the world.

(A brief silence)

Living and true God, you inspire us to share the message of the gospel. Give your spirit of love to seminarians and those beginning their lives in ordained ministry (*local seminarians or newly called ministers may be named*). Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We give you thanks for the majesty of our oceans. Protect the abundant life within them and sustain all those who work to preserve them. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We seek your wisdom in all things. Direct all who hold positions of authority around the world, that they act with compassion, seeking the good of all. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We pray for all people who work in dangerous or degrading environments. Grant them safety and courage, and heal all those who are injured, sick, or suffering (*especially*). Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We ask your blessing on those who do the quiet, unseen work of the church (*congregational ministries may be named*). Encourage them in their work of faith and labor of love. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

(Here other intercessions may be offered)

We thank you for our ancestors who have been called home to you (*especially*). Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Trusting in your boundless grace, O God, we lift up these spoken prayers and those in our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

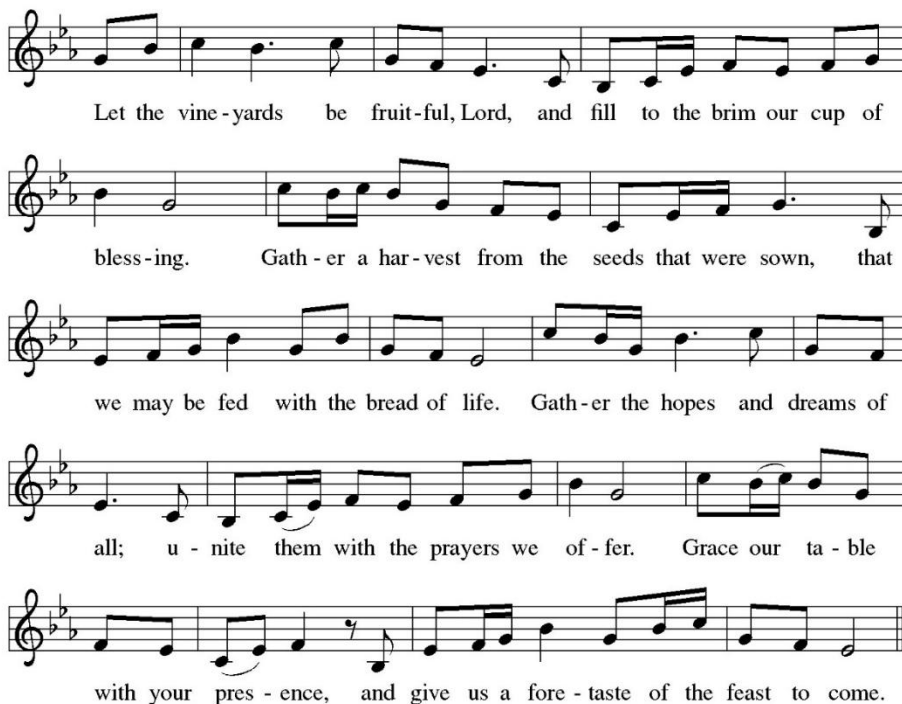
And also with you.

(Please greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace, saying, "Peace be with you" or similar response.)

OFFERTORY

(Please rise)

OFFERTORY RESPONSE



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 dreams of
all; u-nite them with the prayers we of-fer. Grace our ta-ble
with your pres-ence, and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

God of creation,
you send rain and the earth springs forth abundantly.
All blessings are from you;
make us generous with what we have.
Use our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts
in service to you and in love to our neighbors,
today and always.
Amen.

MEAL

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy...
...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

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.

Holy God, you alone are holy, you alone are God.

The universe declares your praise:
 beyond the stars;
 beneath the sea;
 within each cell;
 with every breath.

We praise you, O God.

Generations bless your faithfulness:
 through the water;
 by night and day;
 across the wilderness;
 out of exile;
 into the future.

We bless you, O God.

We give you thanks for your dear Son:
 at the heart of human life;
 near to those who suffer;
 beside the sinner;
 among the poor;
 with us now.

We thank you, O God.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me. Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering his love for us
on the way,
at the table,
and to the end,
we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

We pray for the gift of your Spirit:
in our gathering;
within this meal;
among your people;
throughout the world.

Blessing, praise, and thanks to you, holy God,
through Christ Jesus,
by your Spirit,
in your church,
without end.

Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us,

**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.**

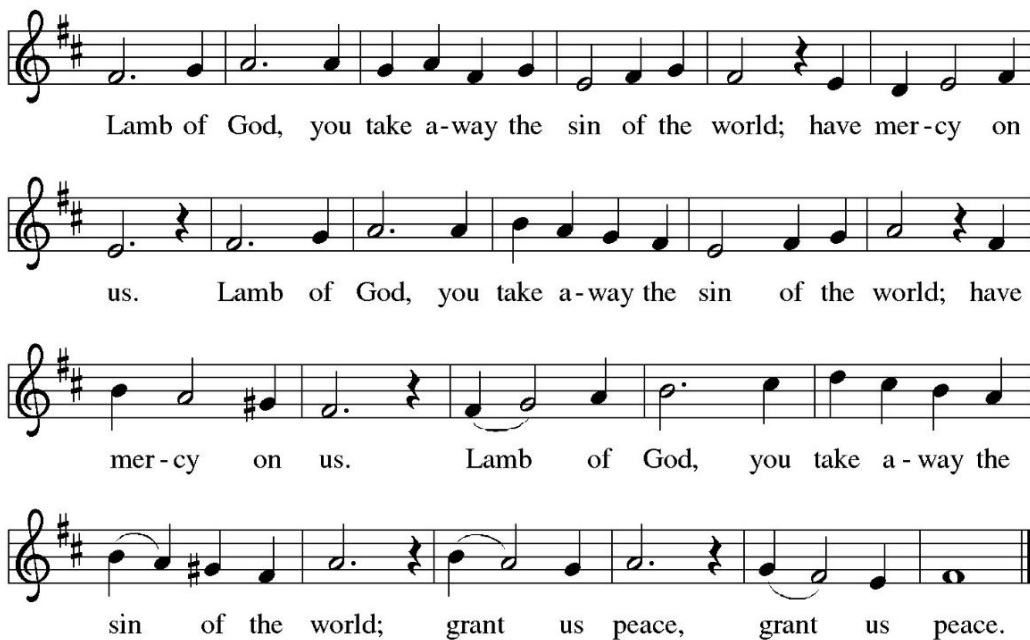
HOLY COMMUNION

Christ invites you to this table.
All who are thirsty, all who are hungry, come!

(Please follow the usher's guidance, coming forward to receive Holy Communion.)

If you would like to be served in your pew, please let an usher know, and the team will come and serve you.

The Sacrament will be served in a continuous line. Please approach the server to receive bread. If you would like gluten-free bread, please let the server know. If you would like wine, pick up an empty cup from the tray. Your cup will be filled with wine from the pouring chalice. If you would like white grape juice, please find a prefilled cup in the tray. You may eat and drink as you are served, then please make your way back to be seated in your pew.)



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.

COMMUNION HYMN

I Come With Joy
ELW #482

COMMUNION HYMN

Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me
ELW #623

(Please rise)

BLESSING AFTER COMMUNION

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ
strengthen you and keep you in God's grace.

Amen.

POST COMMUNION CANTICLE



Thank-ful hearts and voic-es raise; tell ev-'ry-one what God has done. Let



ev - 'ry-one who seeks the Lord re - jice and bear the name of Christ.



Send us with your prom - is - es and lead your peo - ple forth in joy with



shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le-lu - ia, al - le-lu - ia.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Sustaining God,
with this bread and cup,
you nourish us with mercy and abundant life.
By your Spirit, send us from this table to serve a needy world.
Make us living signs of your liberation, healing, and love,
following the way of Jesus, in whose name we pray.

Amen.

SENDING

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MISSION PRAYER

As God has gathered us and filled our hearts with Word and Sacrament,
now God sends us forth to serve in mission. Let us pray:

**Gracious God, through belief in Christ and through the presence of the Holy Spirit within us, empower us to share the word; care and support each other in God's community; worship as a family in Christ; and be Christ-like examples to those whose lives we touch.
Amen.**

BLESSING

The God of love
draw you into full accord and one mind,
in the body of Christ Jesus.

Amen.

The God of hope
grant you strength and joy in all circumstances
through the interceding of the Spirit.

Amen.

The God of grace
✠ bless you now and forever.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN

O God Beyond All Praising
ELW #880

DISMISSAL

Go out in joy. Be led forth in peace.
Thanks be to God.

(Please observe a moment of silence before the postlude)

POSTLUDE

Messiah Staff Members

Choir Director: Vicki Lester

Office Administrator: Steven Liss

Organist: Adam Dellinger

Social Media & Website: Kristy Bohinc

Attributions

Portions from *Evangelical Lutheran Worship*, Holy Communion Setting Four and sundaysandseasons.com. Copyright 2015 Augsburg Fortress. Offertory Response, ELW #184. Post Communion Canticle, ELW #207. Licenses: Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #44485. ONE LICENSE #736747-A. Scripture from the New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright © 1989 National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. Cover Image: Ikrash Muhammad c/o unsplash.com.

Prayers

Prayer Team & Partners: Our Prayer Team will pray with/for you. Please complete a blue Prayer Request Card, available in the sanctuary, which offers these options: (1) request a Pastoral follow-up, (2) include in the intercessory prayers to be read aloud in worship, (3) add to the ongoing list in the Bulletin, or (4) add to the Prayer Partner Email Chain.

PLEASE SEND NEW PRAYER REQUESTS TO: pastor@messiahlyndhurst.org

Please pray for our siblings in Christ: Holly Bhatt, Namit Bhatt, Leah Dey, Michael Elwood, Tonyia Greanoff, Sara Hritz, William Jaros, Retta Kalcik, Drinda Kiner, Diane Kosovich, Grace Loudenstein, Matt Meyer, Vonnie Namestnik, Lisa Perry, Jackie Pickering, Alex Vinesky, and all who are in need of comfort and healing.

*(Prayer requests included in the bulletin will remain active for four weeks.
If you wish to have the prayer renewed, please resubmit it accordingly.)*

Announcements

Intergenerational Game Night – Oct 17: Looking for a fun, free evening with the whole family? Grab your favorite tabletop game, invite a neighbor, and join us on Saturday, 10/17 starting at 4:30 PM. Whether you love classic strategy games or quick card games, there's a table waiting for you! We will have some games and food; but feel free to bring more to share!

Birthday Sunday Fellowship Hour – Oct 18: Join us for Fellowship Hour after the service for our renewal of Birthday Sunday to honor everyone who celebrates an October birthday. All are invited for refreshments and fellowship.

Thanksgiving Food Drive Oct 18 – Nov 15: Benefits the student Food Pantry at Tri-C, Eastern Campus. Items needed include canned food, mac and

cheese, cereal, paper products. Also, items for Thanksgiving dinners such as stuffing mix, canned sweet potatoes, etc. Please place food donations on the table in the church back lobby.

Reformation Day Potluck – Oct 25: Join us for a potluck in the fellowship hall after service on 10/25. We will have an activity for the kids to enjoy while adults listen to a prevention on Law and Gospel from Grant Eckhart, campus pastor at Jacob's Porch, OSU. The connections team will provide sloppy joes. Bring your favorite side dish to share, but don't bring dessert – the kiddos will be in charge of that! And don't forget to wear red!

About Pastor Grant: Pr. Grant Eckhart serves as your Lutheran Campus Pastor in Central Ohio at Jacob's Porch located near The Ohio State University. He has served there for 14 years, is married to Tammy and has two junior high boys. For more information about Jacob's Porch on how to connect a student or make a supporting financial gift please go to www.jacobsporch.com.

Mobile Scooter for Use! There is now a mobile scooter in the lobby outside the Sunday School wing and council room. This is its charging station; but it is available to anyone who may need it. Just have someone alert an usher, and they will get the key for you. My only ask is that after use, it's taken back to the charging port. The ushers will make sure it's plugged back in and the key is returned to the office. The speed goes from turtle to rabbit, so you are able to go as slow (or as fast) as you'd like. This was my grandma's scooter and I'm sure she'd be happy knowing that it's being put to good use. If you have any questions, just reach out to me (Kristy Bohinc).

Choir Update: October 11, 18, and 25 the choir will be performing three songs from Reformation the Musical written by Gary Sironen. Messiah performed this musical twice. "Reformation" is a musical based on the life of Martin Luther, a 16th century monk whose attempts at religious reform divide a nation, the church and the movement he never intended to create. Take and Eat is a beautiful ballad for communion. When the Lightning Strikes is a driving story about Martin Luther's talk with God about becoming a monk and the townsfolk wondering why he wants to be a monk. 95 Propositions is the song about the nailing of Martin's propositions to the door.



Disagree Better – Nov 10: Constructive Conflict? *Is that even possible?* Pull up a chair with Braver Angels and learn how to Disagree Better – practical skills to bridge political divides and turn clash into conversation. Tuesday, Nov. 10th at 6:30pm, Messiah will be hosting a workshop by Braver Angels entitled "Skills for Disagreeing Better". Braver Angels is a nationwide organization dedicated to bridging the divide between "reds" and "blues" politically.

- This is a FREE event and open to all; but registration is appreciated.

- Use the promo code BRAVER when registering.
Scan QR code for more info and to register via Eventbrite:

Pastor Paul's Office Hours:

Wednesdays: 1:00 – 3:00pm

Church Office Hours:

Mon, Wed, & Fri: 12:00 – 4:00pm

Attendance and Offering for the week of October 11, 2026:

Attendance: 61 Offering: \$4,761

Special Acknowledgments

Email to messiahlutheranoffice@gmail.com by Wednesday at 3pm for publication on the following Sunday. We'll keep items in print for at least two weeks.

- ♥ Congratulations to Jean Csumitta on the birth of another great grandchild and Sue and Chuck McDicken on another granddaughter (Karyn Schmidt).
- ♥ Thanks to everyone for the wonderful music this past summer at church services, the folk liturgy, outdoor park service, voices and instruments! We are blessed with so much talent in our congregation (Karyn Schmidt).
- ♥ Thanks to the Messiah congregation for the generous donations made to NEOCH (Northeast Ohio Coalition for the Homeless). Thank you also to Michael Sering and Anthony Bennett for speaking to the Adult Sunday School class on 10/11 to share their organization's story and how we can provide support throughout the upcoming year (Karen Dickerson).