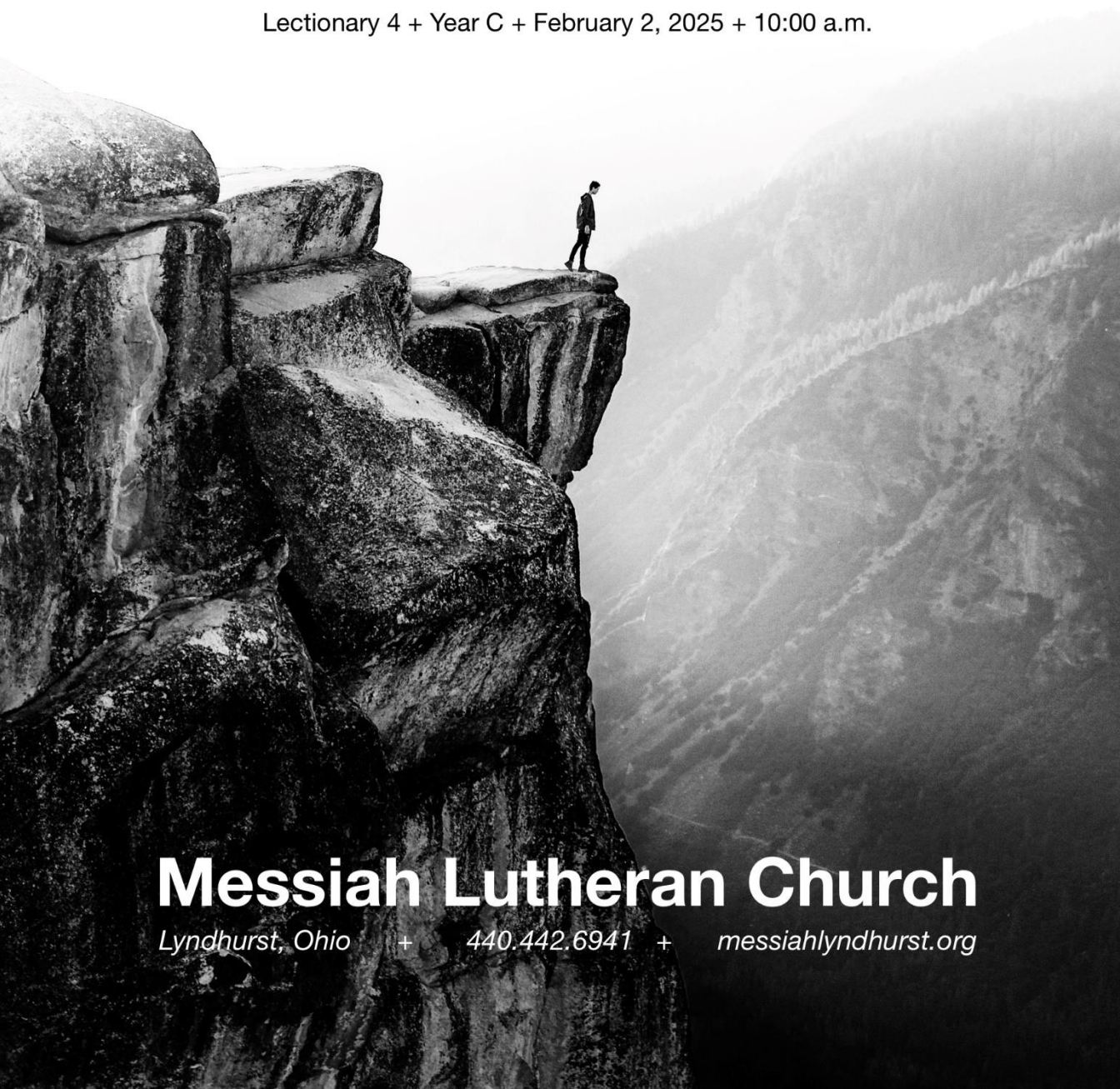


Holy Communion

The Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

Lectionary 4 + Year C + February 2, 2025 + 10:00 a.m.



Messiah Lutheran Church

Lyndhurst, Ohio + 440.442.6941 + messiahlyndhurst.org

Welcome to Messiah Lutheran Church!

Peace be with you in this Time After Epiphany. 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 grow through Sunday School. Classes for all ages take place on Sundays 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:

Minister	The Rev. Paul Moody
Assisting Minister	Drinda Kiner
Organist	Adam Dellinger
Choir Director	Vicki Lester
Altar Guild	Nancy Pittard
Reader	Sunday School Youth
Ushers	Sunday School Youth

GATHERING

WELCOME

PRELUDE

I've Got Peace Like a River
Traditional
Sunday School Youth

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

*(Please rise in body or spirit. All may make the sign of the cross,
the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.)*

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,
our creator, our protector, our wellspring of life.

Amen.

Trusting that God receives our words and the meditations of our hearts, let us
confess our sin.

(Silence is kept for reflection)

Merciful God,

**you speak blessing and compassion into the world. Forgive us for the
ways we act with judgment, cruelty, or indifference. We ignore the
needs of our neighbors; we resist your call to oppose injustice; we
give in to scarcity and fear; we assume the worst about one another.
Cleanse us from our faults and release us from their grasp. Show us
your lovingkindness. Restore our hearts and repair your world, that we
may live in Christ's ways.**

Amen.

God proclaims these words of assurance:

"Do not fear, for I have redeemed you. I have called you by name. You are
mine." In ☩ Christ, you are forgiven. In the Spirit, you are made free.

Refreshed by the waters of mercy, live anew as beloved children of God.

Amen.

GATHERING HYMN

Thy Strong Word
ELW #511

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

A In peace, in peace let us pray to the Lord. **A** For the

C Lord, have mer - cy.

peace from a - bove, and for our sal - va - tion, let us pray to the

Lord. **A** For the peace of the whole world, the well - be - ing of the

C Lord, have mer - cy.

Church of God, and for the u - ni - ty of all, let us pray to the

Lord. **A** For this ho - ly house, and for all who of - fer here their

C Lord, have mer - cy.

wor - ship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

☪ Lord, have mer - cy.

☪ Help, save, com - fort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.

☪ A - men

HYMN OF PRAISE

Refrain

☪ Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

1 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.

Refrain

2 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, have mer-cy on us; you are seat - ed

at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.

3 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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty and ever-living God, increase in us the gifts of faith, hope, and love; and that we may obtain what you promise, make us love what you command, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

(Please be seated)

WORD

FIRST READING

Jeremiah 1:4-10

God calls Jeremiah to be a prophet and consecrates him in the womb. Jeremiah's task is to preach God's word amid the difficult political realities of his time, before the Babylonian exile. He is to make God known not only to Judah, but also to the nations.

⁴ Now the word of the LORD came to me saying,

⁵ "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you,
and before you were born I consecrated you;
I appointed you a prophet to the nations."

⁶Then I said, "Ah, Lord God! Truly I do not know how to speak, for I am only a boy." ⁷But the LORD said to me,

"Do not say, 'I am only a boy';
for you shall go to all to whom I send you,
and you shall speak whatever I command you.

⁸Do not be afraid of them,
for I am with you to deliver you,
says the LORD."

⁹Then the LORD put out his hand and touched my mouth; and the LORD said to me,

"Now I have put my words in your mouth.

¹⁰See, today I appoint you over nations and over kingdoms,
to pluck up and to pull down,
to destroy and to overthrow,
to build and to plant."

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Psalm 71:1-6



¹In you, O LORD, have I ¹ taken refuge;
let me never be ¹ put to shame.

²**In your righteousness, deliver me and ¹ set me free;
incline your ear to ¹ me and save me.**

³Be my strong rock, a castle to ¹ keep me safe;
you are my crag ¹ and my stronghold.

⁴**Deliver me, my God, from the hand ¹ of the wicked,
from the clutches of the evildoer and ¹ the oppressor.**

⁵For you are my hope, ¹ O Lord God,
my confidence since ¹ I was young.

⁶**I have been sustained by you ever since I was born; from my
mother's womb you have ¹ been my strength;
my praise shall be al- ¹ ways of you.**

SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 13:1-13

Christians in Corinth prided themselves on their spiritual gifts. Paul reminds them that God gives us many gifts through the Holy Spirit, but the purpose behind all of them is love, the kind of love that God showed us in Jesus Christ.

¹ If I speak in the tongues of mortals and of angels, but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. ² And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. ³ If I give away all my possessions, and if I hand over my body so that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing.

⁴ Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant ⁵ or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; ⁶ it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. ⁷ It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

⁸ Love never ends. But as for prophecies, they will come to an end; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will come to an end. ⁹ For we know only in part, and we prophesy only in part; ¹⁰ but when the complete comes, the partial will come to an end. ¹¹ When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child; when I became an adult, I put an end to childish ways. ¹² For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then we will see face to face. Now I know only in part; then I will know fully, even as I have been fully known. ¹³ And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

CHOIR ANTHEM

A Winter Charm of Lasting Life
Johnny Cunningham & Susan McKeown

White the sheep that gave the wool
Green the pastures where they fed
Blue and scarlet side by side
Bless the warp and bless the thread

May the charm of lasting life
Be upon your flocks in full
From the hill where they rest
May they rise both whole and well

Bless the man who wears this cloth
May he wounded never be
From the bitter cold and frost
May this cloth protection be

Bless the children warmed within
Three times three our love enfold
Peace and plenty may they find

White the sheep that gave the wool
Green the pastures where they fed
Blue and scarlet side by side
Bless the warp and bless the thread.

heaven was shut up three years and six months, and there was a severe famine over all the land; ²⁶yet Elijah was sent to none of them except to a widow at Zarephath in Sidon. ²⁷There were also many lepers in Israel in the time of the prophet Elisha, and none of them was cleansed except Naaman the Syrian.” ²⁸When they heard this, all in the synagogue were filled with rage. ²⁹They got up, drove him out of the town, and led him to the brow of the hill on which their town was built, so that they might hurl him off the cliff. ³⁰But he passed through the midst of them and went on his way.

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ

(Please be seated)

SERMON

The Rev. Paul Jones Moody

(Please observe a moment of silence after the sermon before standing as directed)

HYMN OF THE DAY

There's a Wideness in God's Mercy
ELW #588

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

With the Spirit of Christ shining upon us, let us boldly pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

(A brief silence)

God of eternal wisdom, we pray for your church, which is being transformed by your word. Bless the church with your wisdom and guidance. Let us notice and take part in the new thing you are doing. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Your creation sustains us and all living creatures. Grant us humility to acknowledge the ways we bring harm to the earth. Grant us courage to make effective change so that all lands and living things prosper. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Embolden leaders of nations, corporations, and all in authority, that they lovingly tend those in their charge. Help them to respond to all who cry out in need. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Provide for those whose hunger runs deep due to isolation, loneliness, or illness (*especially*). Send your Spirit so that all are filled with your presence and experience welcome from their communities. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

We pray for the young people in our congregations. May their voices be celebrated. Give youth a place of honor and value among us. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

(Here other intercessions may be offered)

We remember those who have gone before us. Let their faithful example continue to bear witness to us all. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

We entrust our prayers to you, O God, in the sure and certain hope that your promise is revealed among the people.
Amen.

PEACE

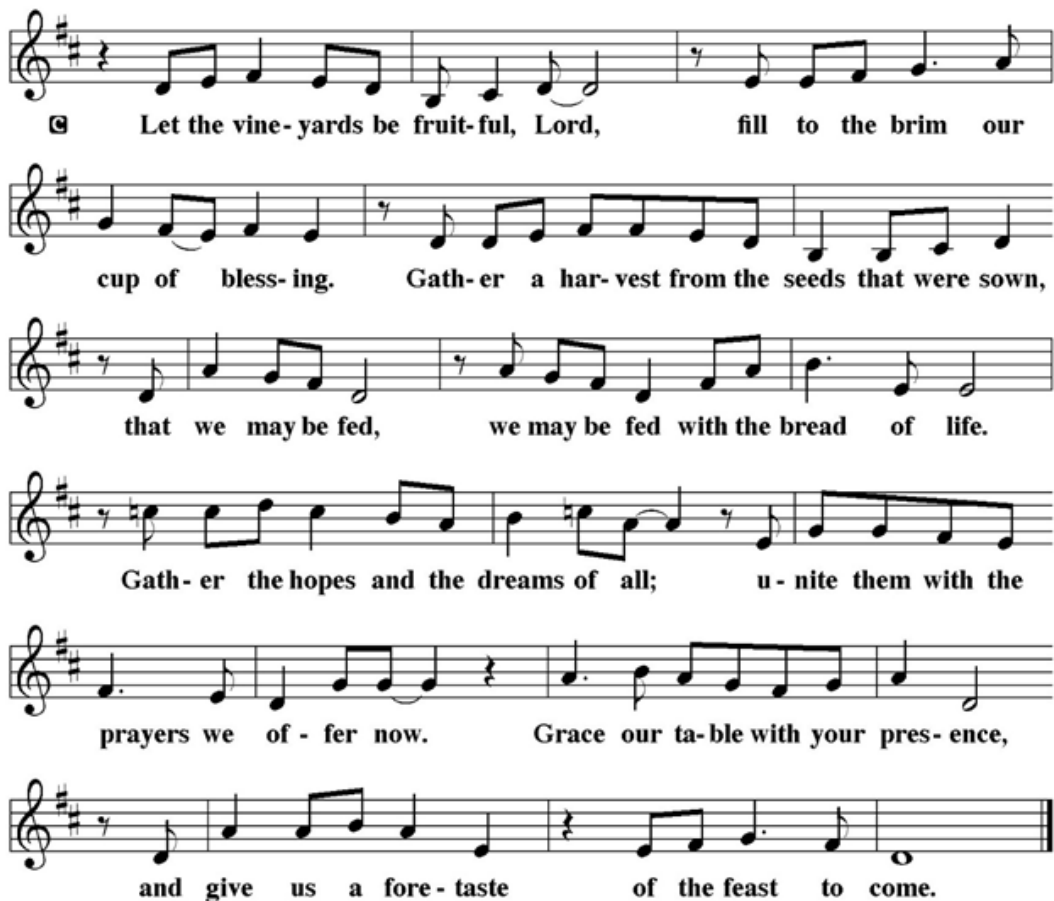
The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

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

OFFERTORY

(Please stand in body or spirit)

OFFERTORY RESPONSE



Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, 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, 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.

OFFERING PRAYER

God of grace, your love reaches to the heavens,
and your abundance to the depths of the seas.
Bless what we offer to your service:
our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts.
Let us overflow with gratitude and generosity,
now and always.

Amen.

MEAL

GREAT THANKSGIVING

P The Lord be with you. **C** And al - so 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 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-en and earth are
 full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
 Bless - ed, bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the
 Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life:
 Blessed are you for the birth of creation.
 Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light.
 Blessed are you for your promise to your people.
 Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams.
 Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will.
 Blessed are you for your Son Jesus,
 the Word made flesh.

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.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:



With this bread and cup
we remember your Word dwelling among us,
full of grace and truth.
We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection.
We look with hope for his coming.



Holy God, we long for your Spirit.
Come among us.
Bless this meal.
May your Word take flesh in us.
Awaken your people.
Fill us with your light.
Bring the gift of peace on earth.



All praise and glory are yours,
Holy One of Israel,
Word of God incarnate,
Power of the Most High,
one God, now and forever.



LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray.

**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.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

The joy of the Lord is our strength.
Come, eat this meal of gladness.
All are welcome here.

(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, have mer-cy on us, have mer - cy.
 Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;
 have mer-cy on us, have mer-cy on us, have mer - cy.
 Lamb of God, you take a- way the sin of the world; grant us peace.

COMMUNION HYMN

Let Streams of Living Justice
 ELW #710

COMMUNION HYMN

Brightest and Best of the Stars
 ELW #303

(Please stand in body or spirit)

BLESSING AFTER COMMUNION

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

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Nourishing God,
at this table you have refreshed us
with holy gifts of food and drink.
Strengthen us for service,
and send us out to embody your good news
of liberation and healing for the sake of the world.
In the name of Christ 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 Spirit of the triune God
✠ bless you with joy,
anoint you with compassion,
and send you in love.
Amen.

SENDING HYMN

Rise Up, O Saints of God!
ELW #669

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Live in hope.
Thanks be to God.

(Please observe a moment of silence before the postlude)

POSTLUDE

Messiah Staff Members

Choir Director: Vicki Lester

Director of Christian Education: Sheryl Trost

Office Administrator: Steven Liss

Organist: Adam Dellinger

Social Media & Website: Kristy Bohinc

Attributions

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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 and Grace Note, 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: Lila Boehler, Becky Dinnen, Mary Lou Ebosh, Gregg Greanoff, Tonyia Greanoff, Alison Griffith, Spencer Griffith, Robin Karaffa, Esther Kingston, Diane Kosovich, Brian Leskiew, Grace Loudenstein, Lucile, Jim Makee, Sr., Tom and Judy Mayer, Lisa Perry, Bill Repke, Susan Sopko, Bill Tokarcik, the family and friends of Judy Cook, Melissa McDermott and family at the death of her father Randy Grzybowski, as well as all those in need of comfort and healing.

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

Announcements

Grace Note Changes: Messiah's Grace Note Newsletter will be changing in format from a monthly publication to a seasonal offering. We will thus be issuing the Grace Note four times per year – in association with Lent/Easter (February – April), Pentecost (May – June), Advent (November – December), and Christmas/Epiphany (December – February). Of course, we may revise this schedule as needed. Nevertheless, the weekly Messiah Missive email may be a bit longer so that we can keep you apprised of church happenings.

2025 Flower Chart: The 2025 flower chart is up on the board in the hallway. Please sign up for whatever Sundays you would like to bring flowers for the altar to beautify our church. Please call Karyn Schmidt (216-382-7397) re: what you would like written in the bulletin for your chosen date(s).

Book Club: We will meet next on Tuesday, February 11, 2025, at 7:00pm at the home of Nancy Pittard. Our book will be *Loyalty* by Lisa Scottoline.

Faith Circle: Faith Circle will not meet again until May, when it is warmer, and our snowbirds have returned to Cleveland. Our next meeting will be May 15, 2025, and Jill Snellman will be our hostess.

Altar Guild: The Altar Guild is looking for new members. Anyone who is interested may contact Twyla Lucas.

Souper Bowl of Caring – January 12 thru February 9: Join Social Ministry in tackling hunger by donating to the Tri-C East Campus Food Pantry. Please place items on the donation table by the church back entry.

Save the Dates – Join us as we walk through the Lenten season together:

- Fat Tuesday Sunday – Potluck after church – March 2.
- Lenten Soup Suppers and Conversations – 6:15pm on Wednesdays March 5, March 19, and April 2.

Counting Team Participants Needed: Please contact Tom Griffith if you are interested in joining a counting team.

Pastor Paul's Office Hours:

Wednesdays: 1:00 – 3:00pm

Church Office Hours:

Mon, Wed, & Fri: 12:00 – 4:00pm

In-person access to the office is via appointment only.

Attendance and Offering for the week of January 26, 2024:

Attendance: 54 Offering: \$9,169

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.

- ♥ Today, we want Miles Dellinger to know how his parents, sister and grandparents are so very proud of him as he celebrates his first communion. We love you Miles, for your caring soul, creative mind and kind heart (the Dellinger family).
- ♥ Mega kudos to Jason Burdorff for his work on the church parking lot. Salting and shoveling. Only one incident and he took care of that, too (the Trosts and the Lesters).