

Welcome to Messiah

We are a community of grace where we live out Jesus' commandment to love God with our whole heart and to love our neighbors as ourselves. We also seek to be a welcoming community for all people. This includes people of every race, ability, sexual orientation and gender identity, ethnic background, economic grouping, religious affiliation, and political persuasion. We do this simply because God created all people in God's own image and Christ Jesus came so all people might have abundant life. We may not always be

9th Sunday after Pentecost

8:30 am - August 10, 2025 Messiah Evangelical Lutheran Church

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please stand as comfortable, in body or in spirit.

The presiding minister will read the sections in plain text.

You are invited to read the bold portions.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Lamb of God,
You unveil what is hidden—
not to shame us,
but to heal us.
You reveal the powers we've trusted,
the silences we've kept,
the idols we've served—
and you still call us beloved.

We confess our complicity: when we have bowed to the beasts of our day, when we have traded courage for comfort, truth for approval, faithfulness for fear.

We confess our weariness: when we have grown lukewarm in love, numb to suffering, slow to listen, quick to judge.

We confess our forgetting: when we have lost sight of you walking among us, radiant, wounded, and near. Unveil us, O Christ.
Unbind us from all that distorts your image in us.
Open our eyes to what is real,
and remake us in the shape of your love.
Amen.

Church, hear the good news:
The One who stands among the lampstands is not ashamed to stand among us still.
The One who bears the wounds of empire has overcome it in love.
The One who holds the keys of Death and Life has never let go of you.

In Jesus Christ, we are seen. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. In Jesus Christ, we are made new.

So do not be afraid.

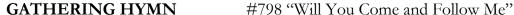
The Lamb reigns.

The story is not over.

You are free to live as people of hope.

Thanks be to God.

Amen.



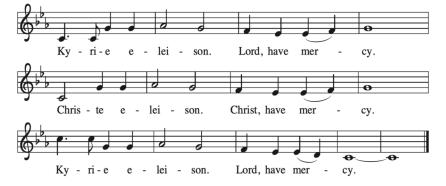




GREETING

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.**







PRAYER OF THE DAY

Risen Christ, you walk among your people still. Call us again to love that acts, and stir in us the courage to follow you with compassion and clarity, for you are the one who speaks life. **Amen.**

FIRST READING

Exodus 5:21-24

Please be seated.

I hate, I despise your festivals, and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies.

Even though you offer me your burnt offerings and grain offerings,

I will not accept them,

and the offerings of well-being of your fatted animals

I will not look upon.

Take away from me the noise of your songs;

I will not listen to the melody of your harps.

But let justice roll down like water

and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Psalm 139:1–12, 23–24

O LORD, you have searched me and known me.

You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern my thoughts from far away.

You search out my path and my lying down and are acquainted with all my ways.

Even before a word is on my tongue, O LORD, you know it completely.

You hem me in, behind and before, and lay your hand upon me.

Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is so high that I cannot attain it.

Where can I go from your spirit?

Or where can I flee from your presence?

If I ascend to heaven, you are there; if I make my bed in Sheol, you are there.

If I take the wings of the morning and settle at the farthest limits of the sea,

even there your hand shall lead me, and your right hand shall hold me fast.

If I say, "Surely the darkness shall cover me, and night wraps itself around me,"

even the darkness is not dark to you; the night is as bright as the day, for darkness is as light to you. 6

Please stand as you are comfortable in body or spirit. **ACCLAMATION**

ACS p. 33



PRIMARY READING

Revelation 2:1-7; 3:14-22

"To the angel of the church in Ephesus write: These are the words of him who holds the seven stars in his right hand, who walks among the seven golden lampstands:

'I know your works, your toil and your endurance. I know that you cannot tolerate evildoers; you have tested those who claim to be apostles but are not and have found them to be false. I also know that you are enduring and bearing up for the sake of my name and that you have not grown weary. But I have this against you, that you have abandoned the love you had at first. Remember, then, from where you have fallen; repent and do the works you did at first. If not, I will come to you and remove your lampstand from its place, unless you repent. Yet this is to your credit: you hate the works of the Nicolaitans, which I also hate. Let anyone who has an ear listen to what the Spirit is saying to the churches. To everyone who conquers, I will give permission to eat from the tree of life that is in the paradise of God.

And to the angel of the church in Laodicea write: The words of the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the origin of God's creation:

'I know your works; you are neither cold nor hot. I wish that you were either cold or hot. So, because you are lukewarm and neither cold nor hot, I am about to spit you out of my mouth. For you say, 'I am rich, I have prospered, and I need nothing.' You do not realize that you are wretched, pitiable, poor, blind, and naked. Therefore I advise you to buy from me gold refined by fire so that you may be rich, and white robes to clothe yourself and to keep the shame of your nakedness from being seen, and salve to anoint your eyes so that you may see. I reprove and

discipline those whom I love. Be earnest, therefore, and repent. Listen! I am standing at the door, knocking; if you hear my voice and open the door, I will come in and eat with you, and you with me. To the one who conquers I will give a place with me on my throne, just as I myself conquered and sat down with my Father on his throne. Let anyone who has an ear listen to what the Spirit is saying to the churches."

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

Please be seated.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

#732 "Borning Cry"



- 1 "I was there to hear your born-ing cry, I'll be there when you are old.
- 2 "When you heard the won-der of the Word I was there to cheer you on;
- 3 "In the mid-dle a ges of your life, not too old, no lon ger young,



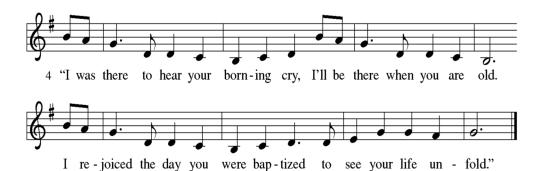
I re - joiced the day you were bap-tized to see your life un - fold. you were raised to praise the liv - ing Lord, to whom you now be - long. I'll be there to guide you through the night, com-plete what I've be - gun.



I was there when you were but a child, with a faith to suit you well; If you find some-one to share your time and you join your hearts as one, When the eve-ning gent-ly clos-es in and you shut your wea-ry eyes,



in a blaze of light you wan-dered off to find where de-mons dwell." I'll be there to make your vers - es rhyme from dusk till ris - ing sun." I'll be there as I have al - ways been, with just one more sur - prise."



APOSTLES' CREED

Please stand as you are comfortable in body or spirit.

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

In solidarity with all creation, we join our voice to the voice of the whole church and pray for the needs of the world.

Keep the heart of your church set firmly in you so that, with lamps lit and attentive to Christ's call at any time or place, your people are ready to respond with faithful action for the sake of the world. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Worlds were prepared by your word. Speak healing and protection upon the earth, especially where life and habitats are threatened. Guide the work of astronomers and all who teach us about the stars and galaxies. God of grace, hear our prayer.

You know the actions and deeds of the nations. Turn humanity away from instruments of war and violence. Fashion the hearts of world leaders to work for peace. God of grace, hear our prayer.

Let your lovingkindness be on those in need, especially... Assure all who are afraid or experiencing great uncertainty that your promises are sure. God of grace, hear our prayer.

Calm the fears of migrants and refugees who set out, not knowing where they go. Provide shelter, sustenance, protection from harm, and welcome. Bless the work of Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service and other means of support and advocacy. God of grace, hear our prayer.

We celebrate the ancestors in the faith who built their lives on your promises and died having seen them only from a distance. Sustain us in our hope of things not seen. God of grace, hear our prayer.

Trusting in your lovingkindness, we place our prayer and hope in you, in the name of Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

SHARING OF THE PEACE

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

Please be seated.

SENIOR CHOIR ANTHEM

"Praise the Lord"

OFFERING PRAYER

Please stand as you are comfortable in body or spirit.

God of every beginning and every end, you are the source of all that is, and still you trust us with your vision. Receive these gifts— signs of our hope, seeds of your justice, acts of resistance against despair. Use them—and use us— to proclaim your love, to sing your song, and to make visible the world you are bringing to birth. In the name of the Lamb who reigns in mercy, we pray. **Amen.**

The Lord be with you.

And also 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:



... Remembering his death, we cry out Amen. Amen. Celebrating his resurrection, we shout Amen. Amen.

Trusting his presence in every time and place, we plead Amen. **Amen.** ... **Amen.**

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.

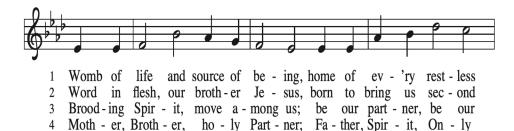
COMMUNION HYMNS

"Lamb of God" ACS p. 40

Please be seated.

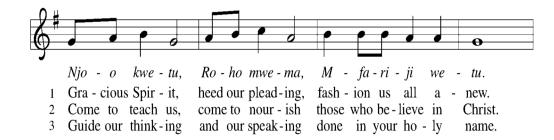


#948 "Womb of Life and Source of Being"





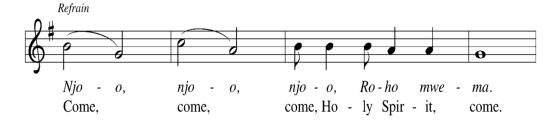
#401 "Gracious Spirit, Heed Our Pleading"





Tu - fu - ndi - she It's your lead - ing Bless the faith - ful, Mo - ti - vate all ya mbi - ngu - ni, that we're need-ing, may they flour-ish, in their seek-ing,

tu - we wa - tu wa - pya. help us to fol - low you. strength-ened by grace un - priced. free - ing from guilt and shame.





- 4 Not mere knowledge, but discernment, nor rootless liberty; turn disquiet to contentment, doubt into certainty. *Refrain*
- Keep us fervent in our witness, unswayed by earth's allure.Ever grant us zealous fitness, which you alone assure. *Refrain*

Please stand as you are comfortable in body or spirt.

POST COMMUNION BLESSING AND PRAYER

BENEDICTION

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

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

Amen.





¹⁵ **SENDING**

Go in peace. Live by the Spirit. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

Welcome to Messiah Lutheran Church



Children belong in worship!

Worship kits and a nursery space is available. God rejoices in the joyful noise of children and so do we!



God calls us to welcome everyone!

Messiah seeks to be a welcoming community and to share the love of God with our neighbors. If you are new, please introduce yourself to our pastors.



Worship should be accessible!

Hearing devices (and T-Coil) and large print bulletins are available. We invite you to sit or stand as you are comfortable. All gender and family restroom facilities are available on the first level, please see signs in the



All are welcome at Jesus' table!

During communion grape juice and gluten-free options are available. Those not wishing to commune may come forward for a blessing. Those not able to come forward may receive communion in their pew, please notify the usher.



God calls us to pray!

Private prayer requests may be made by writing them on the back of the Welcome Card. If you would like to be added to the prayer list or receive a pastoral care visit, please contact the church office.

Messiah Evangelical Lutheran Church

305 W. Magnetic St., Marquette Michigan 906.225.1119 — www.messiahlutheranmqt.org

Preacher: Pr. Andrew Plocher
Assisting Minister: Dave Blomquist
Reader: Larry Pagel
Ushers: Sten Taube

Communion Assistants: Beth Krznarich, Kathy Maynard, Larry Pagel, Marina

Shinkarenko

Greeters: Chris Harkness, Marina Shinkarenko

Organist: Jon Banitt
Senior Choir Director: Sara Parks
Audio Technician: Traci Zini
Livestream Technician: Traci Zini
Nursery: Mylee Muscoe
Flower Delivery: Jill Luoma
Refreshments: Church Office

Acknowledgements

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If you wish to designate your donation to a specific fund, please be sure to do so. Any undesignated donations automatically go to our general fund which supports the entirety of our ministry.

Thank you for your generosity!

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