

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 perfect, but this is our intention--all are welcome!

9th Sunday after Pentecost

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

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS



2 PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

The presiding minister will read the sections in plain text. You are invited to read the bold portions.

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.

Lamb of God.

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.**

KYRIE









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 Amos 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.

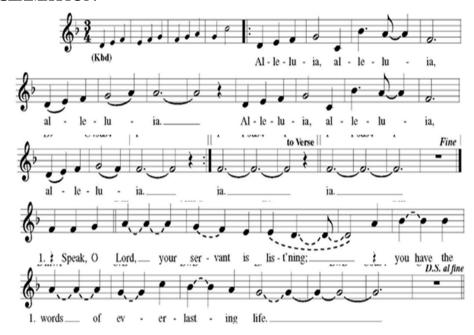
But let justice roll down like water

and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

ACCLAMATION



Please stand as you are comfortable in body or in spirit. "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.

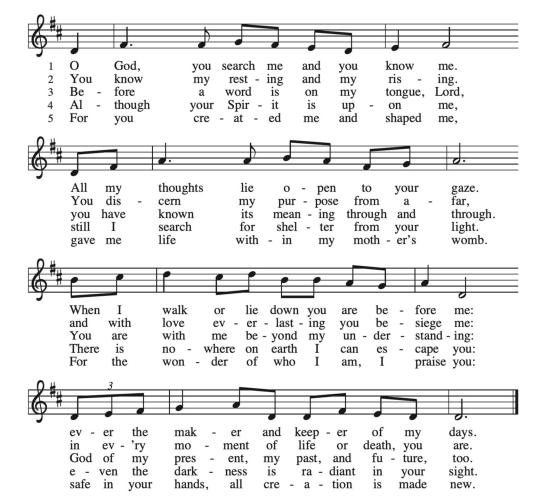
Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Please be seated

HYMN OF THE DAY

ACS #1082 "O God, You Search Me"



AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

We believe in God above us,

maker and sustainer of all life, of sun and moon, of water and earth, of all people. We believe in God beside us, Jesus Christ, the word made flesh, born of a woman, servant of the poor, tortured and nailed to a tree.

A man of sorrows, he died forsaken.

He descended into the earth to the place of death.

On the third day he rose from the tomb.

He ascended into heaven, to be everywhere present,

and His kingdom will come on earth.

We believe in God within us,

the Holy Spirit of Pentecostal fire,

Please stand as you are comfortable in body or spirit. 8 life-giving breath of the Church,
Spirit of healing and forgiveness,
source of resurrection and of eternal life.
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.

9 **SPECIAL MUSIC** "Thy Word" *Celebration Choir*

Please be seated

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'S SUPPER

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

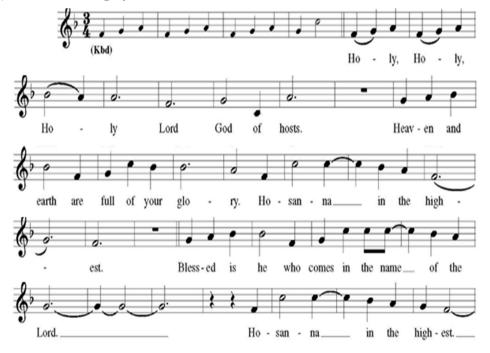
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed ...

And so with the angels and elders, with every creature and every generation, we join the unending hymn:





•••

So we remember his death.

We proclaim his resurrection.

We await the city whose light is the Lamb.

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

... Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor are yours, almighty God, now and forever. **Amen.**

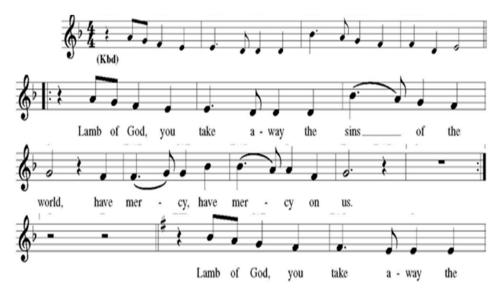
THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

COMMUNION HYMNS

"Lamb of God"

Please be seated.





#964 ACS "Here Would I Feast" #948 ACS "Womb of Life and Source of Being"

Please stand as you are comfortable in body or spirit.

BENEDICTION

SENDING HYMN

"Breakthrough" Red Rocks Worship









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 Narthex.



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.

Preacher: Pr. Andrew Plocher
Assisting Minister: Marina Shinkarenko
Reader: Nancy Hamlin
Ushers: Jill Luoma

Communion Assistants: Sandy Lindberg, Gayle Mack, Marina Shinkarenko

Greeters: Marina Shinkarenko

Songleader: Sara Parks
Pianist: Jacob Schmeltzer

Band Members: Tom Bronken, Darren Smith, Ross Larson, Dave Horn

Audio Technician: Traci Zini
Livestream Technician: Traci Zini
Projection Technician: Kathy Godec
Nursery: Mylee Muscoe
Flower Delivery: Jill Luoma

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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