

MESSIAH
LUTHERAN
CHURCH

Family Praise and Worship
February 16, 2025
11:00 am

Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany



Pastor Kurt Hoover
Worship Coordinator Justin Brown
Technology Coordinator Nikolai Stier
Children's Ministry Director Leslie McFarland

40 Houbolt Rd.
Joliet, IL 60431

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WORSHIP TODAY

Call To Worship

Welcome

Worship Through Songs

Worship Through Giving

Children's Message

Worship Through Hearing God's Word

Message

**"6 Habits of Highly Effective Christians:
Confidence in Tough Times"**

by Pastor Kurt Hoover

(Copies of this sermon and others can be found in the Narthex.)

Worship Through Song

Prayers of Intercession

Prayer of Confession & Forgiveness

Communion

Worship Through the Lord's Prayer

Announcements

Closing Song

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Jeremiah 17:5-8 (NIV)

Reader: Tom Bond

⁵ This is what the Lord says: "Cursed is the one who trusts in man, who draws strength from mere flesh and whose heart turns away from the Lord. ⁶ That person will be like a bush in the wastelands; they will not see prosperity when it comes. They will dwell in the parched places of the desert in a salt land where no one lives.

⁷ "But blessed is the one who trusts in the Lord, whose confidence is in him.

⁸ They will be like a tree planted by the water that sends out its roots by the stream. It does not fear when heat comes; its leaves are always green. It has no worries in a year of drought and never fails to bear fruit."

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

Romans 12:9-13 (NIV)

⁹ Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good. ¹⁰ Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves. ¹¹ Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord. ¹² Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer. ¹³ Share with the Lord's people who are in need. Practice hospitality.

GOSPEL LESSON

Luke 6:17-26 (NIV)

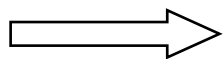
¹⁷ He went down with them and stood on a level place. A large crowd of his disciples was there and a great number of people from all over Judea, from Jerusalem, and from the coastal region around Tyre and Sidon, ¹⁸ who had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases. Those troubled by impure spirits were cured, ¹⁹ and the people all tried to touch him, because power was coming from him and healing them all.

²⁰ Looking at his disciples, he said: "Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God. ²¹ Blessed are you who hunger now, for you will be satisfied. Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh. ²² Blessed are you when people hate you, when they exclude you and insult you and reject your name as evil, because of the Son of Man.

²³ "Rejoice in that day and leap for joy, because great is your reward in heaven. For that is how their ancestors treated the prophets. ²⁴ "But woe to you who are rich, for you have already received your comfort. ²⁵ Woe to you who are well fed now, for you will go hungry. Woe to you who laugh now, for you will mourn and weep. ²⁶ Woe to you when everyone speaks well of you, for that is how their ancestors treated the false prophets.

NEW TO MESSIAH? WANT TO LEARN MORE?

Please join us on Sunday, **March 23rd** from 12:15-2:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall at the **"Get to Know Messiah"** luncheon & membership information class where you can learn our story, about our people and the vision of Messiah! This is also an opportunity for us to get to know YOU and the best way to support your faith journey. **Lunch will be provided** and childcare is available upon request. Registration information to follow next week - Save the date!



CALL COMMITTEE SURVEY - Last Chance!

The deadline to turn in your Call Committee Survey is **February 23rd**. Copies of the survey and a collection box are in the Narthex.

CONNECT WITH MESSIAH

You can use this QR code to let us know you're new, tell us that you're interested in next steps at MLC, submit prayer requests, fill out a Connect Card and give online.

Scan here to connect with MLC:



OFFICE HOURS

The church office is open Monday-Friday from 9 a.m.-3 p.m., or by appointment. Holiday weeks may vary.

ONLINE GIVING

Online giving is an easy way to give to MLC, and there are three ways to do it:

- 1) Go to this link: churchcenter.com/giving
- 2) Download the Church Center app on your phone or tablet.
- 3) Text your dollar amount (with a dollar sign in front of it) to 84321.

PUBLICATION DEADLINES

Items for the bulletin are due by the end of the day each Tuesday, and newsletter material is due the 20th of each month.

NEWS & OPPORTUNITIES TO GET INVOLVED

ADULT BIBLE STUDY (Insight)

We meet in Fellowship Hall Sunday mornings at 9:30. Our newest series, which will continue into spring, is being led by Kenyon Gjerde and Tom Bond. We'll focus on Ezekiel through the month of February. We'd love to have you join us!

ALTAR FLOWERS - Sign up in the Narthex!

Our Altar flowers sign up chart is on the Connect Wall in the Narthex. Arrangements are \$25 each and may be taken home with you after the 11:00 service.

DAYBREAK SHELTER

Volunteers are needed to serve dinner to needy people at Daybreak Homeless Shelter in Joliet. The commitment is from 5:30-7:00 p.m. on the second Monday of each month. Food donations are also needed. Please sign up in the Narthex.

Messiah members will be serving at Daybreak on Monday, March 10th.

FAITH & BODY THURSDAYS

Tie up your shoes and meet in the Family Life Center for Faith & Body! We meet every Thursday morning from 9-10. It's exciting to think how many miles we will walk this year while simultaneously strengthening our faith! Please register here:

<https://messiahlutheranchurch.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/2426227>

MEMORY BEARS

Messiah's Memory Bears Group meets the fourth Tuesday of every month from 9 a.m.-12 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. We have jobs that do not require sewing! Come check us out on **February 25th**. Text Cindi Souza at (815) 931-8478 or email to regency118@comcast.net for more info.

MESSIAH MEN'S MINISTRY (3M)

Mark your calendar - 3M meets the second and fourth Tuesday of every month at 6:30 p.m. in the Fireside Room. We're currently discussing the book of Exodus. Please join us on **February 25th**. Email Mike Brown at gonzopal2017@cheerful.com for more info.

MOMCo

Attention moms of little ones! MOMCo meets on Friday mornings twice a month from 9:15-11:15. Our next meetup is on **February 21st**.

OWLS (Older Wiser Loving Seniors)

Join us the second Tuesday of every month (September-May) at noon. We ask that everyone **SIGN UP IN THE NARTHEX** to bring an appetizer, snack, salad, or dessert (light finger-foods). Our next luncheon, a St. Patrick's Day celebration, will be on **March 11th**.

PRAYER CHAIN

Messiah uses an email-based Prayer Chain made up of people willing to pray for our members, community, and nation in times of crisis. Prayers are shared amongst the group via email and are kept confidential as much as possible. Text Cindi Souza at (815) 931-8478 or email to regency118@comcast.net for more info.

PRAYER TEAM

Our in-person Prayer Team meets Thursday mornings in the Fireside Room from 10:15-11:15 to pray together over our prayer request list. For more info text Cindi Souza at (815) 931-8478 or by email to regency118@comcast.net, or reach out to Beth Hohisel at bhohisel@hotmail.com.

QUILTERS

Messiah Quilters meets the third Tuesday of every month from 9 a.m.-12 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. Our next meeting is on **February 18th**! We have a lot of quilts ready to complete and, if you can tie a knot, you can help us out! We even have jobs you can do sitting down. Think about stopping in to see what we do. If you are unable to join us and would like to sew at home, we have kits available and can show you how easy it is to put a quilt top together. Contact Kathy Mueller (815) 953-6601 at scpbklane@aol.com for more information or any questions you may have.

STAY-N-PLAY

Stay-N-Play, our **FREE weekly play group** for kids five and under along with their parent/guardian, meets every Tuesday morning in the FLC from 9:30-11!

STROLLER FIT MOM'S CLUB

Attention moms with stroller-aged children! Bring your littles with you in the stroller for an opportunity to socialize & GET EXERCISE with other like-minded moms! We generally meet every-other Friday morning at the church from 9:30-10:30. We will walk outdoors, weather permitting. In the event of inclement weather, we'll meet in the Family Life Center. We meet once in February, on the **28th**. Please reach out to Season Lawler for more info.

WEDNESDAY FAMILY DINNERS

Our Wednesday dinners are in need of hosts! **If you would like to host** a future Wednesday Night Dinner, please reach out to Terry Anzalone or Pastor Kurt.

WOMEN'S MINISTRIES

Our next **Bunco** night will be on **March 7th**. For more info or to RSVP, please reach out to Beth at bhohisel@hotmail.com.

Women's Bible Study meets in Wednesday evenings at 6:30 in the Fireside Room.

Aspire 2025

You're invited! One night, three hours - Just for women! Saturday, **April 5th** from 6-9 p.m. at Springbrook Community Church in Huntley. Your payment of \$25 can be made online or dropped off at the church office, "Women's Aspire Event" in the memo line.

Register here **by March 5:**



CELEBRATION SUNDAY AT MESSIAH!

Palm Sunday, April 13th

We'll celebrate with combined worship at 10 a.m. in the FLC and will include our annual Youth Parade.

MESSIAH KIDS (pre-K to 5th grades)

CHILDREN'S CHOIR

March rehearsals are on the 16th and 23rd. We'll perform on **March 30th** at the 9:30 service.

DADDY DAUGHTER DANCE

Join us Friday, **February 28th** from 6:30-8:30 p.m. in the FLC! There will be dancing, photography, snacks & refreshments. Semi-formal attire requested. Free event.

DADS & DUDES NERF BATTLE

Saturday, **March 29th** from 1-3 p.m. in the FLC. Bring your best Nerf gun. Nerf darts will be provided, along with popcorn and refreshments. Dads, uncles and/or grandpas are welcome! Free event.

EASTER EGG HUNT

Saturday, **April 12th** from 1-3 p.m. Outdoors, weather permitting. Kids - Don't forget to bring your Easter basket and friends! Free event.

J-CHURCH

Fun for Messiah youth of all ages (kids, tweens & teens)! J-Church is the **third Sunday of every month** at 11:00 in the FLC.

MESSIAH KIDS WEDNESDAYS (MKW)

Kids in K-5th grades are invited to join us on Wednesday evenings at 6:30. Contact Beth Hohisel bhohisel@hotmail.com or (815) 735-7897 for more info.

MILE MARKER WORKSHOPS for parents and kids

Second grade: "My New Bible"

Sessions: February 16th & 23rd (Sunday School)

Presentation: March 2nd (9:30 service)

To register, follow this link:



Fourth grade: "First Communion"

Sessions: March 16th, 23rd, 30th, April 6th & 13th (Sunday School)

Breaking Bread: Messiah kitchen, April 13th at 9 a.m.

First Communion: Maundy Thursday service at 7 p.m.

MOM & ME TEA

Sunday, **March 9th** from 1-3 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. We'll have treats, crafts and lots of fun! Moms, aunts and/or grandmas are welcome! Free event.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Make sure to bring your children to Sunday school, upstairs in our youth classrooms, on Sunday mornings at 9:30.

For more info on ministries for kids pre-K through 5th grade, email Leslie McFarland, Children's Min. Director, at childrensmin@mlcjoliet.org or Kimber Drummond, Christian Ed. Director, at christianed@mlcjoliet.org.

MESSIAH STUDENT MINISTRIES (6th to 12th grades)

BIBLE STUDY

6th-8th graders are invited to the Youth Room on Sunday mornings at 9:30. Our high schoolers meet in Classroom #101 off of Fellowship Hall.

DODGEBALL!

Join us for an evening of fun and dodgeball on Saturday, **March 15th** from 6-9 p.m.

HEAD2HEART

H2H (otherwise known as Confirmation) meets on Wednesday evenings at 6:30. All 6th-8th graders are welcome!

YOUTH MINISTRY: F.A.M.

Students in high school & beyond are invited to be a part of our Wednesday evening student ministry program - Friends and Mentors = **F.A.M.** Students. We meet on Wednesdays from 6:30-8 p.m.

For more info on ministries for students 6th through 12th grade, email Kersten Stier, Youth Director, at stumin@mlcjoliet.org.



COFFEE SHOP!

Messiah Student Ministries Coffee Shop fundraiser returns this morning, **February 23rd** and also on **March 30th**.

Back by popular demand, our baristas will be whipping up your favorite flavored coffee drinks! Come see us at the kitchen counter from 8 -11 a.m. & get your customized hot/cold beverages!

ALTAR FLOWERS

Altar flowers today are provided by Jesse Cohoon in loving memory of Joan.

If you would like to sponsor Altar flowers, please sign up in the Narthex or call the office at (815) 741-4488. Arrangements are \$25 each.

THIS WEEK AT MESSIAH

SUNDAY (February 16)

8 a.m. Worship
9:30 a.m. Worship (+online),
Sunday School & Bible Study for All Ages
11 a.m. Family Praise & Worship,
J-Church
1 p.m. Cristo Rey

MONDAY (February 17)

7:30-2 Homeschool Group (full campus)

TUESDAY (February 18)

9 a.m. Quilters
9:30 a.m. Stay-N-Play

WEDNESDAY (February 19)

11:30 a.m. Joliet Christian Women
6:30 p.m. FAM, H2H, MKW,
Women's Bible Study

THURSDAY (February 20)

9 a.m. Faith & Body
10:15 a.m. Prayer Team
11:30 a.m. Staff Meeting
7:15 p.m. Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

FRIDAY (February 21)

9:15 a.m. MOMCo

SATURDAY (February 22)

9 a.m. Worship Team Rehearsal

SUNDAY (February 23)

8-11 a.m. Coffee Shop by MSM
8 a.m. Worship
9:30 a.m. Worship (+online),
Sunday School & Bible Study for All Ages
11 a.m. Family Praise & Worship
1 p.m. Cristo Rey

ATTENDANCE

LAST WEEK:

8:00 am: 55
9:30 am: 74
11:00 am: 46
Online: 27

MSM (6th-12th): 12
Messiah Kids (K-5th): 8

2025 GIVING

Operating Budget: \$680,068
YTD Operating Budget: \$78,469
YTD Giving Received: \$79,633
Average Weekly Need: \$13,078
Received Last Week: \$9,415

STEWARDSHIP VERSE OF THE WEEK

Mark 12:43-44

Calling his disciples to him, Jesus said, "Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put more into the treasury than all the others. They all gave out of their wealth; but she, out of her poverty, put in everything - all she had to live on."