

MESSIAH
LUTHERAN
CHURCH 
CELEBRATING 125 YEARS



**Wednesday in the
3rd Week of Lent**

**March 4, 2026
7:00 p.m.**

Senior Pastor Kurt Hoover
Organist & Pianist Rose Ann Sochan
Sanctuary Choir Director Herb Alexander
Worship Assistants Herb Alexander, Jane Costello

40 Houbolt Rd.
Joliet, IL 60431

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Welcome to Messiah Lutheran Church

Wednesday in the 3rd Week of Lent

(Please place offerings in the basket in the entryway to the Sanctuary)

PRELUDE

Rose Ann Sochan

OPENING HYMN

"O Sacred Head, Now Wounded," #178 v. 1, 3



1. O sa - cred Head, now wound - ed, With grief and shame weighed down,
2. What Thou, my Lord, hast suf - fered Was all for sin - ners' gain;
3. What lan - guage shall I bor - row To thank Thee, dear - est Friend.



Now scorn - ful - ly sur - round - ed With thorns Thine on - ly crown:
Mine, mine was the trans - gres - sion, But Thine the dead - ly pain.
For this, Thy dy - ing sor - row, Thy pit - y with - out end?



How pale Thou art with an - guish, With sore a - buse and scorn, How
Lo, here I fall, my Sav - ior; 'Tis I de - serve Thy place; Look
O make me Thine for - ev - er, And should I faint - ing be, Lord,



does that vis - age lan - guish, Which once was bright as morn!
on me with Thy fa - vor, As - sist me with Thy grace.
let me nev - er, nev - er Out - live my love to Thee. A - men.

A LITANY FROM DUST TO GLORY

Leader: The Lord God formed Adam from the dust of the ground.

All: **He breathed the breath of life into Adam's nostrils,
and he came to life.**

Leader: The ground is cursed because of Adam and Eve.

All: **By the sweat of our brow will we have food to eat,**

Leader: until we return to the ground from which we were made.

All: **For we were made from dust and to dust we will return.**

Leader: We will not all die, but we will all be transformed!

All: **We are born to die because we come from Adam,**

Leader: but everyone who belongs to Christ will be given new life.

All: Amen.

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Leader: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

A MOMENT OF SILENT PRAYER AND REFLECTION

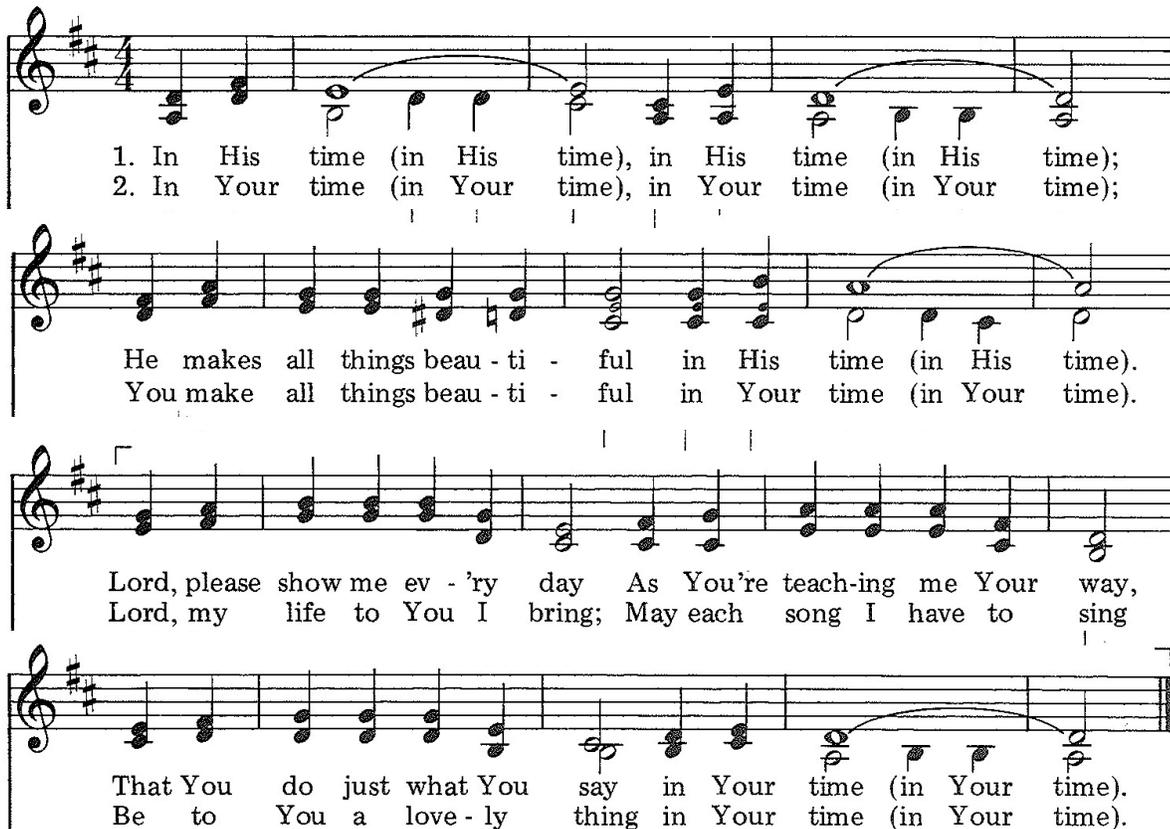
Leader: Holy and Gracious God,

All: **I confess that I have sinned against you this day and every day. Some of my sin I know—the thoughts and words and deeds of which I am ashamed—but some is known only to You. In the name of Jesus Christ I ask forgiveness. Deliver and restore me, that I may rest in peace and live each day for You.**

Leader: By the mercy of God we are united with Jesus Christ, and in Him we are forgiven. We rest now in His peace and rise every morning to serve Him. Amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE

"In His Time," #465 v. 1-2



1. In His time (in His time), in His time (in His time);
2. In Your time (in Your time), in Your time (in Your time);

He makes all things beau-ti-ful in His time (in His time).
You make all things beau-ti-ful in Your time (in Your time).

Lord, please show me ev-'ry day As You're teach-ing me Your way,
Lord, my life to You I bring; May each song I have to sing

That You do just what You say in Your time (in Your time).
Be to You a love-ly thing in Your time (in Your time).

WE GIVE OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS TO THE LORD

OFFERTORY MUSIC

Rose Ann Sochan

SCRIPTURE READINGS (NIV)

Genesis 1:26-2:3

²⁶ Then God said, "Let us make mankind in our image, in our likeness, so that they may rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky, over the livestock and all the wild animals, and over all the creatures that move along the ground."

²⁷ So God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.

²⁸ God blessed them and said to them, "Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky and over every living creature that moves on the ground."

²⁹ Then God said, "I give you every seed-bearing plant on the face of the whole earth and every tree that has fruit with seed in it. They will be yours for food. ³⁰ And to all the beasts of the earth and all the birds in the sky and all the creatures that move along the ground—everything that has the breath of life in it—I give every green plant for food." And it was so.

³¹ God saw all that he had made, and it was very good. And there was evening, and there was morning—the sixth day.

¹ Thus the heavens and the earth were completed in all their vast array.

² By the seventh day God had finished the work he had been doing; so on the seventh day he rested from all his work. ³ Then God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on it he rested from all the work of creating that he had done.

Exodus 20:1-17

¹ And God spoke all these words: ² "I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery.

³ "You shall have no other gods before me.

⁴ "You shall not make for yourself an image in the form of anything in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the waters below. ⁵ You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I, the Lord your God,

am a jealous God, punishing the children for the sin of the parents to the third and fourth generation of those who hate me,⁶ but showing love to a thousand generations of those who love me and keep my commandments.

⁷ "You shall not misuse the name of the Lord your God, for the Lord will not hold anyone guiltless who misuses his name.

⁸ "Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy.⁹ Six days you shall labor and do all your work,¹⁰ but the seventh day is a sabbath to the Lord your God. On it you shall not do any work, neither you, nor your son or daughter, nor your male or female servant, nor your animals, nor any foreigner residing in your towns.¹¹ For in six days the Lord made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but he rested on the seventh day. Therefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy.

¹² "Honor your father and your mother, so that you may live long in the land the Lord your God is giving you.

¹³ "You shall not murder.

¹⁴ "You shall not commit adultery.

¹⁵ "You shall not steal.

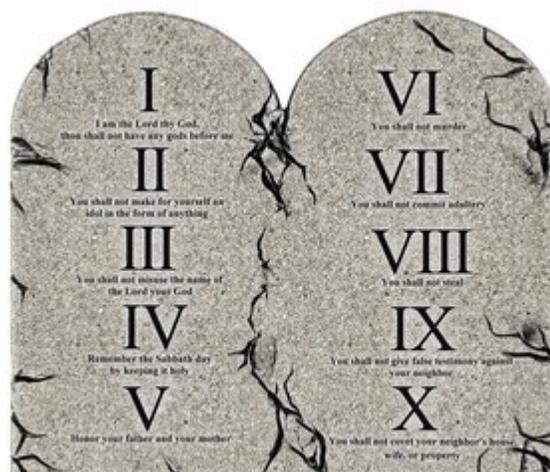
¹⁶ "You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor.

¹⁷ "You shall not covet your neighbor's house. You shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his male or female servant, his ox or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor."

MESSAGE

"You Need Rest!"

Pastor Kurt Hoover



HYMN

"He Leadeth Me," #461 v. 1-3



- 1. He lead - eth me! O bless - ed thought! O words with heav'n - ly comfort fraught!
2. Lord, I would clasp Thy hand in mine, Nor ev - er mur - mur nor re - pine,
3. And when my task on earth is done, When, by Thy grace, the vic - t'ry's won,

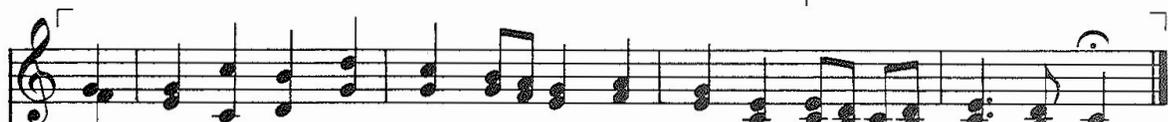


What - e'er I do, wher - e'er I be, Still 'tis God's hand that lead - eth me!
Con - tent, what - ev - er lot I see, Since 'tis Thy hand that lead - eth me!
E'en death's cold wave I will not flee, Since God thru Jor - dan lead - eth me!

Refrain



He lead - eth me, He lead - eth me, By His own hand He lead - eth me:



His faith - ful fol - l'wer I would be, For by His hand He lead - eth me.

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

THE LORD'S PRAYER

All: 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.

HYMN

"Lamb of God"



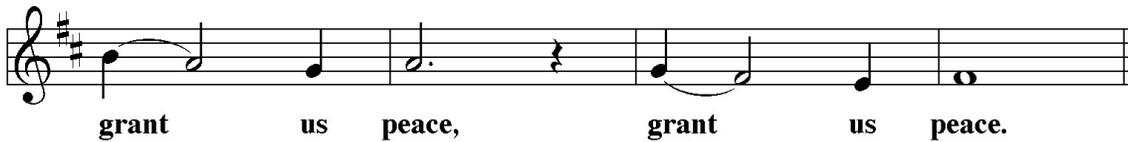
Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.



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;



COMMUNION HYMNS

"Gentle Shepherd," #458 (1X)
 "Let Us Break Bread Together," #323 v. 1-3

THE BLESSING

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

All: Lord Jesus, You are the potter, we are the clay. You are the shepherd, we are the sheep in Your flock. Tonight we have been fed through this holy meal and nurtured by Your word. We love You and thank You because You first loved us. Amen.

Pastor: For we were made from dust,
All: and to dust we will return.

LUTHER'S EVENING PRAYER

All: We give thanks heavenly Father through Jesus Christ your dear son, that you have this day graciously protected us. We confidently ask you to forgive us all our sins and the wrong that we have done. By your great mercy protect us during the coming night. Into your hands we commend our bodies and souls and all that is ours. Let your holy angels have charge of us, that the wicked one may have no power over us. Amen.

THE BENEDICTION

CLOSING HYMN "The King of Love My Shepherd Is," #468 v.1-5



1. The King of love my Shep-herd is, Whose good-ness fail - eth nev - er; I
 2. Where streams of liv-ing wa - ter flow My ran-somed soul He lead - eth, And
 3. Per-verse and fool - ish oft I strayed, But yet in love He sought me, And
 4. In death's dark vale I fear no ill With Thee, dear Lord, be - side me; Thy
 5. And so thru all the length of days Thy good-ness fail - eth nev - er: Good



noth - ing lack if I am His And He is mine for - ev - er.
 where the ver - dant pas-tures grow With food ce - les - tial feed - eth.
 on His shoul - der gen - tly laid, And home re - joic - ing bro't me.
 rod and staff my com - fort still, Thy cross be - fore to guide me.
 Shep-herd, may I sing Thy praise With - in Thy house for - ev - er. A - men.

POSTLUDE

Rose Ann Sochan

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**2026 Lenten Wednesday offerings
will be donated to
Lutheran World Relief.**

Wednesday Evenings during Lent:

Soup Supper at 5:30 p.m.

Worship at 7 p.m.

Palm Sunday Celebration Service

at 10 a.m. in the FLC

Holy Week:

April 2 (Maundy Thursday) at 7 p.m.

April 3 (Good Friday) at 7 p.m.

April 5 (Easter Sunday) at 8:30 and 10:45 a.m.

Breakfast served 7:30-11 a.m.



Worship Coordinator Justin Brown
Office Coordinator Vicki Dallmann
Children's Choir Director Season Lawler
Children's Ministry Director Leslie McFarland
Building Liaison Kate Richmond
Youth Director Kersten Stier
Technology Coordinator Nikolai Stier
Bookkeeper Sherri Unyi