



May 24, 2026
8:30 a.m.

The Greatness of the Holy Spirit

Day of Pentecost

Senior Pastor Kurt Hoover
Guest Pianist Sue Malmberg
Sanctuary Choir Director Herb Alexander
Worship Assistants Herb Alexander, Jane Costello

40 Houbolt Rd.
Joliet, IL 60431

(815) 741-4488
www.mlcjoliet.org

Welcome to Messiah Lutheran Church

May 24, 2026

8:30 a.m.

Enter Reverently, Worship Joyfully, Live Faithfully

PRELUDE

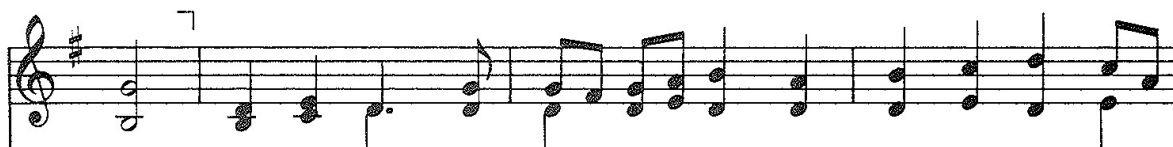
Sue Malmberg

OPENING HYMN

"Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah," #51 v. 1-3



- > 1. Guide me, O Thou great Je - ho - vah, Pil - grim through this bar - ren
- > 2. O - pen now the crys - tal foun - tain, Whence the heal - ing stream doth
3. When I tread the verge of Jor - dan, Bid my anx - ious fears sub -



land; I am weak, but Thou art might - y; Hold me with Thy
flow; Let the fire and cloud - y pil - lar Lead me all my
side; Bear me thro' the swell - ing cur - rent, Land me safe on



pow'r - ful hand; Bread of heav - en, Bread of heav - en, Feed me
jour - ney through; Strong De - liv - erer, strong De - liv - erer, Be Thou
Ca - naan's side; Songs of prais - es, songs of prais - es I will



till I want no more, Feed me till I want no more.
still my strength and shield, Be Thou still my strength and shield.
ev - er give to Thee, I will ev - er give to Thee. A - men.

LITANY BASED ON PSALM 8

Leader: When I look at Your heavens,

All: the work of your fingers,

Leader: the moon and stars,

All: which You have set in place,

Leader: what is man that You are mindful of him,

All: and the son of man that You care for him?

Leader: We worship You Lord in the name of the Father, and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

VBS TEMPLE TALK

Megan Kuhn

SANCTUARY CHOIR

"Prayer for My Country,"
arr. Penny Rodriguez, dir. Herb Alexander

HYMN OF PRAISE

"Shine, Jesus, Shine," #671 v. 1-2, ELW

Refrain



Shine, Je - sus, shine, fill this land with the Fa - ther's glo - ry;



blaze, Spir - it, blaze, set our hearts on fire.



Flow, riv - er, flow, flood the na - tions with grace and mer - cy;



send forth your Word, Lord, and let there be light!



1 Lord, the light of your love is shin - ing, in the midst of the



2 As we gaze on your king - ly bright - ness, so our fac - es dis -



dark - ness, shin - ing; Je - sus, light of the world, shine up - on us,



play your like - ness, ev - er chang - ing from glo - ry to glo - ry,



set us free by the truth you now bring us.



mir - rored here, may our lives tell your sto - ry.

Refrain



Shine on me, shine on me:



Shine on me, shine on me:

HYMN OF PRAISE

"Freely, Freely," #447 v. 1-2



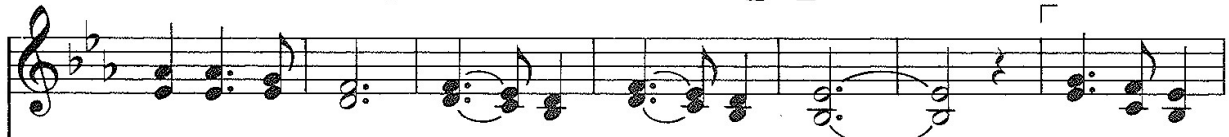
1. God for - gave my sin in Je - sus' name, I've been born a - gain in
2. All pow'r is giv'n in Je - sus' name, In earth and heav'n in



Je - sus' name; And in Je - sus' name I come to you To share
Je - sus' name; And in Je - sus' name I come to you To share



His love as He told me to: He said, "Free - ly, free - ly
His pow'r as He told me to:



you have re - ceived—Free - ly, free - ly give; Go in My



name and, be-cause you be - lieve, Oth-ers will know that I live."

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.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Pastor Kurt Hoover

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

Sue Malmberg

RESPONSE

Doxology #625

Praise God from whom all bless-ings flow; Praise Him, all crea - tures here be - low;

Praise Him a-bove, ye heav'n-ly host; Praise Fa-ther, Son and Ho-ly Ghost. A - men.

FIRST LESSON, Deuteronomy 16:9-12 (ESV)

Reader: Angie Mitchka

⁹“You shall count seven weeks. Begin to count the seven weeks from the time the sickle is first put to the standing grain. ¹⁰Then you shall keep the Feast of Weeks to the LORD your God with the tribute of a freewill offering from your hand, which you shall give as the LORD your God blesses you. ¹¹And you shall rejoice before the LORD your God, you and your son and your daughter, your male servant and your female servant, the Levite who is within your towns, the sojourner, the fatherless, and the widow who are among you, at the place that the LORD your God will choose, to make his name dwell there. ¹²You shall remember that you were a slave in Egypt; and you shall be careful to observe these statutes.

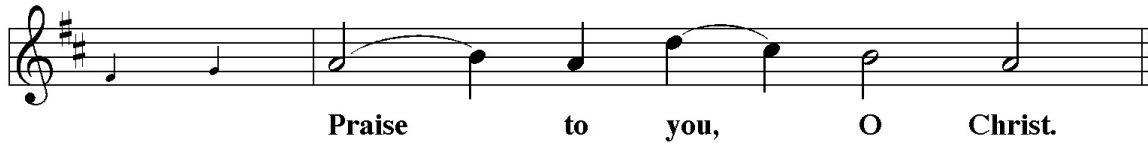
SECOND LESSON, Acts 2:1-13 (ESV)

Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

¹When the day of Pentecost arrived, they were all together in one place. ²And suddenly there came from heaven a sound like a mighty rushing wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. ³And divided tongues as of fire appeared to them and rested on each one of them. ⁴And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance.

⁵Now there were dwelling in Jerusalem Jews, devout men from every nation under heaven. ⁶And at this sound the multitude came together, and they were bewildered, because each one was hearing them speak in his own language. ⁷And they were amazed and astonished, saying, “Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? ⁸And

how is it that we hear, each of us in his own native language? ⁹ Parthians and Medes and Elamites and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, ¹⁰ Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, ¹¹ both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabians—we hear them telling in our own tongues the mighty works of God.” ¹² And all were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, “What does this mean?” ¹³ But others mocking said, “They are filled with new wine.”



MESSAGE **“Pentecost: Rejoice and Remember”**
 Pastor Kurt Hoover

A manuscript for this sermon and those previous can be found in the Narthex.

HYMN **“Holy Spirit, Light Devine” #166 v. 1-6, LCMS**

1 Ho - ly Spir - it, light di - vine, Dawn up - on this
 2 Ho - ly Spir - it, grace di - vine, Cleanse this sin - ful
 3 Ho - ly Spir - it, truth di - vine, Shine up - on these
 4 Ho - ly Spir - it, pow'r di - vine, For - ti - fy this

soul of mine; Let your word dis - pel the night,
 heart of mine; In your mer - cy look on me,
 eyes of mine; Send your ra - diance from a - bove,
 will of mine; Bend it to your own pure will,

Wake my spir - it, clear my sight.
 From sin's bond - age set me free.
 Let me know my Sav - ior's love.
 All my life with grac - es fill.

5 Holy Spirit, peace divine,
 Still this restless heart of mine;
 Speak to calm the tossing sea,
 Stayed in your tranquility.

6 Holy Spirit, all divine,
 Dwell within this self of mine;
 I your temple pure would be
 Now and for eternity.

WORDS OF FAITH

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of Heaven and Earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day He rose again. He ascended into Heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Servers: Nancy Bertnik, Rowan Hedden, Doug Potts

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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;



grant us peace, grant us peace.

COMMUNION HYMN

"Lo, He Comes with Clouds Descending," #241 v. 1-2



1. Lo, He comes with clouds de-scend-ing, Once for fa - vored sin - ners slain;
2. Ev - ery eye shall now be-hold Him, Robed in dread-ful maj - es - ty;
3. Now re-demp-tion, long ex-pect-ed, See in sol - emn pomp ap-pear:
4. Yea, A - men! let all a-dore Thee, High on Thine e - ter - nal throne;



Thou-sand thou-sand saints at-tend-ing, Swell the tri - umph of His train:
Those who set at naught and sold Him, Pierced and nailed Him to the tree,
All His saints, by men re - ject-ed, Now shall meet Him in the air:
Sav - ior, take the pow'r and glo - ry, Claim the king - dom for Thine own:



Al - le - lu - ia! al - le - lu - ia! God ap - pears on earth to reign.
Deep-ly wail - ing, deep - ly wail - ing, Shall the true Mes - si - ah see.
Al - le - lu - ia! al - le - lu - ia! See the day of God ap-pear.
O, come quick-ly, O, come quick-ly! Ev - er - last - ing God, come down. A-men.

COMMUNION HYMN

"Jesus Paid It All," #210 v. 1-4

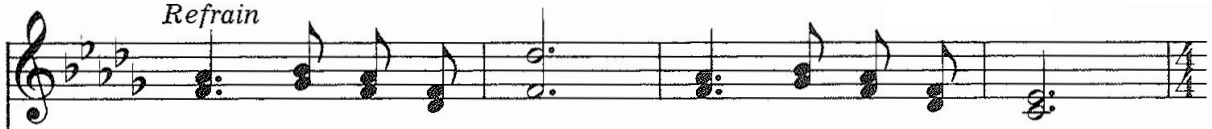


1. I hear the Sav - ior say, "Thy strength in - deed is small!
2. Lord, now in - deed I find Thy pow'r, and Thine a - lone,
3. For noth - ing good have I Where - by Thy grace to claim -
4. And when be - fore the throne I stand in Him com - plete,



Child of weak - ness, watch and pray, Find in Me thine all in all."
Can change the lep - er's spots And melt the heart of stone.
I'll wash my gar - ments white In the blood of Cal - v'ry's Lamb.
"Je - sus died my soul to save," My lips shall still re - peat.

Refrain



Je - sus paid it all, All to Him I owe;

Sin had left a crim-son stain— He washed it white as snow.

COMMUNION BLESSING

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Thank you Father for the gift of salvation. Thank you Lord Jesus for this holy meal and the sacrifice of Your life. Thank you Holy Spirit for awakening faith within our hearts. We hear your voice in this meal and celebrate Your holy presence. Melt us, mold us, fill us, use us. In Jesus' name, Amen.

BENEDICTION

CLOSING HYMN

"Faith of Our Fathers," #279 v. 1-4

1. Faith of our fa - thers! liv - ing still In spite of dun - geon,
 2. Our fa - thers, chained in pris - ons dark, Were still in heart and
 3. Faith of our fa - thers! we will strive To win all na - tions
 4. Faith of our fa - thers! we will love Both friend and foe in

fire and sword: O how our hearts beat high with joy
 con - science free: How sweet would be their chil - dren's fate,
 un - to thee, And thro' the truth that comes from God,
 all our strife: And preach thee too as love knows how,

When-e'er we hear that glo - rious word! Faith of our fa - thers,
 If they like them could die for thee! Faith of our fa - thers,
 Man-kind shall then be tru - ly free. Faith of our fa - thers,
 By kind - ly words and vir - tuous life: Faith of our fa - thers,

ho - ly faith! We will be true to thee till death!
 ho - ly faith! We will be true to thee till death!
 ho - ly faith! We will be true to thee till death!
 ho - ly faith! We will be true to thee till death!

*God will never lead you to a place
where His grace cannot keep you.*

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Sunday, May 24th

9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

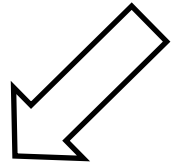
Donate and receive a \$25 eGift Card!

Register at: www.versiti.org/IL

or scan here:



**Walk-ins
welcome!**



VBS is June 22-26!
Registration closes June 1st

Calling for VBS volunteers! There will be a **Volunteer Workshop** on **Sunday, June 7th** at 9:40 a.m. in Fellowship Hall. Questions? Email Stephanie at VBS@mlcjoliet.org.

Register here:



Volunteers are also asked to register!



A Night of
Baseball and Fun!
June 17th @ 6:35pm

- Wear a **red shirt** so we stand out
- Get there early to hear Herb Alexander singing the National Anthem
- See Sherri Unyi for questions
- Order your tickets here \$10 each →



NEWS & OPPORTUNITIES TO GET INVOLVED

125th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS

Save these dates: Saturday, September 19th - Dinner Banquet (time TBD); Sunday, September 20th - Reception Celebration between services

ADULT "INSIGHT" BIBLE STUDY

Join us in Fellowship Hall, Sunday mornings during Education Hour. Insight is taking a brief break. Summer startup info coming soon.

COFFEE & FELLOWSHIP TIME



Be sure to join us for coffee & good company on Sunday mornings in Fellowship Hall! Coffee will be available beginning at 8:30 a.m. and will continue until after the later service gets out. If you are an 8:30 attender - stay late! If Family Praise & Worship is your service - come early! Make new friends! If you'd like to help with Sunday morning coffee, please reach out to Joyce Pawlowski at 630-890-1203.

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:



Online Giving - There are two convenient ways to do it:

- 1) On our website at <https://www.mlcjoliet.org/give>.
- 2) Through the Church Center app on your phone or tablet, or scan the QR code above.

Our **online giving app** now offers some new features designed to streamline the process. You will have the option to split your donation between giving funds. It will be easier to donate via ACH (only a flat \$0.30 processing fee per transaction, versus the 2.15% plus \$0.30 for credit cards). Previous donations will be saved, and better security with identity verification. All to make it easier to donate online.

FAITH & BODY

Lace up your shoes and enjoy a walk in the Family Life Center, weekly on Thursdays (Sept-May, ended May 21st) from 9-10 a.m.

GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP

Please join Messiah's new Grief Support Group on the **first Thursday every month** at 1 p.m. in Room 101. This group offers caring and confidential space for those walking through loss. You are not alone. We are here to support one another. Questions may be directed to Pat Burke or Judy Fowler.

*Grief
Support
Group*

MEMORY BEARS - Bonus Day June 11th!



Messiah's Memory Bears Group normally meets the 4th Tuesday of every month from 9 a.m.-12 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. Our next meeting is **May 26th**. We have jobs that do not require sewing! We'll also have a bonus "sewing day" on Thursday, **June 11th** at 12:30 p.m... more details coming soon! Text Cindi Souza at (815) 931-8478 for more info.

OWLS (Older, Wiser, Loving Seniors)

OWLS meets on the second Tuesday of every month at noon, September-May. We enjoy a light lunch together, play trivia, and usually feature a guest speaker or entertainment! OWLS is on break for summer and will resume on **September 8th**.



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 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 reach out to Beth Hohisel at bhohisel@hotmail.com. Please note that **we will not meet on May 28th**, and will instead meet on **May 27th at 11:30 a.m.** in recognition of "50 Days of Prayer for Our Nation."

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.

QUILTERS - Bonus Day June 2nd!

Messiah Quilters meet the 3rd Tuesday each month from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. 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 and 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 sew a quilt top together.

Quilters, continued... Contact Kathy Mueller at (815) 953-6601 or scpbklane@aol.com for more information or any questions you may have. Hope to see you on **June 2nd** and **June 16th**!

STAY-N-PLAY

Our FREE weekly open gym play group for kids five and under has ended for the summer.

WOMEN'S GARDEN GETAWAY



Join the Messiah Women's Group for a fun morning at the Elwood Children's Garden on Wednesday, **June 10th**. The garden is a free, whimsical and interactive garden that offers fun and nature's beauty for all ages. The garden has themed small scale areas including Peter Rabbit's Garden, beautiful flower gardens and so much more to see!

We will carpool from Messiah, leaving at 9 a.m., or you can meet us at the Children's Garden at 9:30. Bring a sack lunch to enjoy in the pavilion. The Elwood Children's Garden is located at 801 N. Chicago Street in Elwood.

MESSIAH KIDS (pre-K to 5th grades)

MESSIAH KIDS WEDNESDAYS (MKW) SUMMER PROGRAM

Our summer MKW kickoff is on **June 17th** and runs through July 29th (except during VBS week). We'll meet Wednesday evenings from 6:30-7:45 p.m. in the upper level Kidz Club!

NATIONAL BIBLE BEE

Messiah will once again host the National Bible Bee this summer, **June 10th** through August 12th from 5-6 p.m.! Registration is open at biblebee.org. For more info please reach out to Leslie.

SUNDAY SCHOOL SUMMER SCHEDULE

Our summer session for K-8th graders will run **July 5th** through August 16th. We meet upstairs in the Kids Club.

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

MESSIAH STUDENT MINISTRIES (6th to 12th grades)

BIBLE STUDY (SUNDAY MORNINGS)

Bible Study for high schoolers is in the Fireside Room and will continue year-round.

FRIENDS AND MENTORS (FAM) AND HEAD2HEART (H2H)

FAM & H2H will continue meeting on Wednesday evenings from 6-8 through May 6th. We'll then have a few weeks off until Summer SALT begins.

SUMMER S.A.L.T. KICKOFF

This summer we will meet in a combined format for 6th-12th graders! Our **kickoff party** will be on Wednesday, **May 27th** from 6-8 p.m. at the Stier's home. Our summer program will meet at church from 6-8 p.m. June 3rd through August 5th. *Please note that we will not meet on 07/22 or 07/29.*

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



MESSIAH
LUTHERAN
CHURCH

women's ministries

Women's Garden Getaway

Elwood Children's Garden
Wednesday, June 10th

Carpool from Messiah at 9 a.m.
or meet us there!
Bring a sack lunch.

Questions? Reach out to Sherri Unyi.

SAVE THE DATE: Baccalaureate and Graduation Ceremony and Brunch June 14th – 9:45 a.m.

We will celebrate all of our students, pre-K through college graduates. We ask that students, together with parents, complete information packets telling us about the student's accomplishments. These **packets were due by Sunday, May 17th** and should be turned in to the bin in the Narthex. Additional copies of the packets can also be found there. Please be sure to RSVP for the June 14th celebration and brunch as well.

Contact Leslie 630-518-8825 or Lisa 815-922-9028 with questions.



HELP! We are looking for help in updating our church history. We have the booklets from our 75th and 100th anniversaries, but need to update the last 25 years and maybe even collect more information dating back further! So, if you have any photos, flyers, letters, programs, booklets of the people and events that have transpired over the last 25 years here at Messiah, we would love to see them. If you have a memory you would like to share, we would love to hear it directly from you or you can write it down for us. If you were part of an event or activity and have a great story or fun memory, we would love to hear that also!

We are gathering this information now. A basket labeled "Messiah Memories" is provided in the Narthex for you to drop your info in. If you have photos (or other memorabilia) and want them back, include your name and phone and we will return them to you. Also, if you are able to identify any or all of the people in a photo, that would be wonderful!

Original charter members of Hauge Norwegian Evangelical Lutheran Church:

Nels Nelson	Jacob Wetteland	Ole Eddy
Iver Eddy	A. Thorson	G. Stnerson
Alfred Johnson	Austen Jones	Christ Erickson

Are you related to any of these people? Let us know! Be sure to check out the historical photos on the Community Board in the Narthex. You can contact Kathy Mueller, 815-953-6601 or scpbklane@aol.com for more information or questions on Messiah's 125th Anniversary!

ALTAR FLOWERS

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

PENTECOST SUNDAY, May 24

8:30 a.m. Traditional Worship
9 a.m.-1 p.m. Blood Drive
9:40 a.m. Education Hour (*high school only*)
10:45 a.m. Family Praise & Worship
1 p.m. Cristo Rey Worship

MONDAY, May 25

Office Closed

TUESDAY, May 26

9 a.m. Memory Bears

WEDNESDAY, May 27

11:30 a.m. Prayer Team
6 p.m. Summer S.A.L.T. Kickoff Party
at Kersten Stier's residence

THURSDAY, May 28

12 p.m. Staff Meeting

FRIDAY, May 29

n/a

SATURDAY, May 30

9 a.m. Worship Team Rehearsal

SUNDAY, May 31

8:30 a.m. Traditional Worship
9:40 a.m. Education Hour (*high school only*)
10:45 a.m. Family Praise & Worship
1 p.m. Cristo Rey Worship

ATTENDANCE

LAST WEEK:

8:30: 88
10:45: 40
Online: 26

2026 GIVING

Operating Budget: \$694,359
YTD Operating Budget: \$267,932
YTD Giving Received: \$211,932
Needed Each Week: \$13,353
Received Last Week: \$13,043

1st Quarter 2026

Actual Income vs. Expense:
-\$14,823

STEWARDSHIP VERSE OF THE WEEK

Psalm 118:24

This is the day
that the Lord has made;
let us rejoice
and be glad in it.

Messiah office hours are Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., otherwise by appointment. Please call (815) 741-4488.

