

MESSIAH
LUTHERAN
CHURCH

Family Praise and Worship
January 26, 2025
11:00 am

Third Sunday after the Epiphany



*"The spirit of the Lord is upon me,
because He has anointed me
to proclaim good news to the poor.
He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives
and recovering of sight to the blind,
to set at liberty those who are oppressed,
to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."
- Luke 4:18-19, Isaiah 61:1-2*

Pastor Kurt Hoover
Tech Coordinator Nikolai Stier
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Children's Ministry Director Leslie McFarland

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WORSHIP TODAY

Call To Worship

Opening Prayer

Welcome

Worship Through Song

Worship Through Giving

Children's Message

Worship Through Hearing God's Word

Message

**"6 Habits of Highly Effective Christians:
Follow Jesus, Not the Crowd"**

by Pastor Kurt Hoover

Worship Through Song

Prayers of Intercession

Worship Through the Lord's Prayer

Prayer of Confession & Forgiveness

Worship Through Proclaiming Our Faith

Announcements

Closing Song

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

Genesis 1:1-2 (ESV)

Reader: needed

¹ In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth.² The earth was without form and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters.

Romans 12:1-2 (ESV)

¹ I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. ² Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

Luke 4:16-30 (ESV)

¹⁶ And he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up. And as was his custom, he went to the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and he stood up to read. ¹⁷ And the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written,

¹⁸ "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,
because he has anointed me
to proclaim good news to the poor.
He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives
and recovering of sight to the blind,
to set at liberty those who are oppressed,
¹⁹ to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."

²⁰ And he rolled up the scroll and gave it back to the attendant and sat down. And the eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. ²¹ And he began to say to them, "Today this Scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing." ²² And all spoke well of him and marveled at the gracious words that were coming from his mouth. And they said, "Is not this Joseph's son?" ²³ And he said to them, "Doubtless you will quote to me this proverb, "Physician, heal yourself." What we have heard you did at Capernaum, do here in your hometown as well.'" ²⁴ And he said, "Truly, I say to you, no prophet is acceptable in his hometown. ²⁵ But in truth, I tell you, there were many widows in Israel in the days of Elijah, when the heavens were shut up three years and six months, and a great famine came over all the land, ²⁶ and Elijah was sent to none of them but only to Zarephath, in the land of Sidon, to a woman who was a widow. ²⁷ And there were many lepers in Israel in the time of the prophet Elisha, and none of them was cleansed, but only Naaman the Syrian." ²⁸ When they heard these things, all in the synagogue were filled with wrath. ²⁹ And they rose up and drove him out of the town and brought him to the brow of the hill on which their town was built, so that they could throw him down the cliff. ³⁰ But passing through their midst, he went away.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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 it now to connect with MLC:



OFFICE HOURS

The church office is open Monday-Friday from 9 am-3 pm, 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 weekly bulletin are due each Wednesday by noon, and newsletter material is due the 20th of each month.

NEWS & OPPORTUNITIES TO GET INVOLVED

ADULT "INSIGHT" BIBLE STUDY

We meet in Fellowship Hall Sunday mornings at 9:30. Our newest series, which will continue into spring, is being led by Kenyon Gjerde. We'll focus on Jeremiah and Lamentations, with a lead-in to Revelations. Come join us and participate in the discussion!

ALTAR FLOWERS - SIGN UP IN THE NARTHEX

Our Altar flowers sign up chart is on the Connect Wall in the Narthex. If you'd like to help beautify our Sanctuary and sponsor Altar flowers in honor of a special occasion or to memorialize someone important in your life, please sign up! Arrangements are \$25 each and may be taken home with you after the 11:00 Sunday 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 pm 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, February 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>

FIRESIDE CHATS

Want to know more about the people behind the scenes at Messiah? Visit our website at <https://www.mlcjoliet.org/fireside-chats>. New episodes of staff and leadership interviews will be released every few weeks!



MEMORY BEARS

Messiah's Memory Bears Group meets here at the church from 9 am-noon once a month (sometimes twice!). We would love to have you join us! We have jobs that do not require sewing! Our next meeting is on **January 28th**. Text Cindi Souza at (815) 931-8478 or email to regency118@comcast.net for more info.

MEN'S MINISTRY (3M)

The 3M group wishes everyone a great holiday season! Men, mark your calendars... We will meet again on Tuesday, **January 28th** in the book of Exodus. Email Mike Brown at gonzopal2017@cheerful.com for more info.

MOMCo (Formerly MOPS)

Attention moms of little ones! MOMCo meets on Friday mornings, twice a month from 9:15-11:15. Our next meetup is on **February 7th**.

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 will be on **February 11th**. In February, we will again welcome the UKELELE STRUMMERS!

PRAYER CHAIN

Messiah uses an email-based (not in-person) 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 confidential and anonymous 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 weekly in the Fireside Room for approximately one hour, to pray together over our prayer request list. For more info, text Cindi Souza at (815) 931-8478 or email to regency118@comcast.net or Beth Hohisel at bhohisel@hotmail.com.

QUILTERS

Quilters will meet twice in February! We'll have a "bonus day" on **February 4th**, as well as our regularly scheduled quilting day on **February 18th**! We meet from 9 am-2 pm in Fellowship Hall. 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. Hope to see you on **February 4th** and/or **18th**!



SEARCH COMMITTEE SURVEYS



Please remember to complete your Search Committee Survey by **February 1st**! Copies are available in your January newsletter or in the Narthex. A confidential drop box is provided near the ushers' table in the Narthex.

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'll 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 on **January 31st**. 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 MINISTRY

Our next Bunco night will be on **February 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 pm in the Fireside Room.

MESSIAH KIDS

CHILDREN'S CHOIR

February rehearsal is on the 9th, and we'll perform on **February 16th** at the 9:30 service.

J-CHURCH

Our newest ministry for Messiah youth of all ages (kids, tweens & teens)! J-Church is the **third Sunday of every month** at 11:00 in the FLC. For more information, see Leslie McFarland.

MESSIAH KIDS WEDNESDAYS (MKW)

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

MILE MARKER WORKSHOPS for parents and kids

Kindergarten: "Let's Pray"

Session: January 26th (Sunday school), Presentation: February 2nd (9:30 service)

Second grade: "My New Bible"

Sessions: February 16th & 23rd (Sunday school), Presentation: March 2nd (9:30 service)

Fourth grade: "First Communion"

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

Breaking Bread: Messiah kitchen April 13th,

First Communion: Maundy Thursday, service at 7 pm

Contact Leslie at childrensmin@mlcjoliet.org with questions or to register.

MOVIE NIGHT

MESSIAH KIDS PRESENTS, "THE STAR." Join us **January 31st** from 6:30-8 pm in the FLC. Bring your family & friends, a snuggly blanket and wear your Christmas jammies. Snack on popcorn and enjoy the evening with us! We hope to see you there. FREE EVENT!

PRE-K THROUGH 5th GRADE SUNDAY SCHOOL

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

TRINITY CHRISTIAN SCHOOL of Shorewood will be hosting an **Open House** on Sunday, **January 26th** from 2-4 pm. TCS serves students in preschool through 8th grade and offers options for full-day and half-day kindergarten. Before and after school care is also offered during the school year. Families are welcome to take a tour, meet teachers and current parents, check out the curriculum and learn about the comprehensive Christian education Trinity has to offer. More information at www.trinitychristian.info, or contact us at admissions@trinitychristian.info, or call (815) 577-9310. Pre-registration for this event is encouraged and available at <https://linktr.ee/trinitychristian>. Walk-ins are welcome.

MESSIAH STUDENT MINISTRIES

BIBLE STUDY FOR 6th -12th GRADERS

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.

HEAD2HEART

H2H (otherwise known as Confirmation) meets on Wednesday evenings at 6:30. All 6th-8th graders are welcome! For more information, reach out to our Youth Director & H2H leader, Kersten Stier, at stumin@mlcjoliet.org.

MAFIA NIGHT

6th-12th graders (and their friends!) are invited to join us for MAFIA Night on Friday, **February 7th** from 7-10 pm. Please bring \$5 if you wish to join us for pizza.

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 pm. For more information, email stumin@mlcjoliet.org.

ALTAR FLOWERS

The white rose on the Altar this morning is dedicated to the glory of God
in honor of the birth of Wren Marli Kerry-Scott
by Greg & Deb Dole.

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 (January 26)

ANNUAL MEETING at noon

8 am Worship
9:30 am Worship (+online),
Sunday School & Bible Study for All Ages
11 am Family Praise & Worship
12 pm Annual Meeting
1:30 pm Cristo Rey

MONDAY (January 27)

7:30-2 Homeschool Group full campus

TUESDAY (January 28)

9 am Memory Bears
9:30 am Stay-N-Play
6:30 pm 3M

WEDNESDAY (January 29)

6:30 pm FAM, H2H, MKW,
Women's Bible Study

THURSDAY (January 30)

9 am Faith & Body
10:15 Prayer Team
11:30 am Staff Meeting
7:15 pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

FRIDAY (January 31)

9:30 am Stroller Moms

SATURDAY (February 1)

9 am Worship Team Rehearsal

SUNDAY (February 2)

8 am Worship
9:30 am Worship (+online),
Sunday School & Bible Study for All Ages
11 am Family Praise & Worship
1:30 pm Cristo Rey

STEWARDSHIP & ATTENDANCE

LAST WEEK:

8:00 am: 74
9:30 am: 113
11:00 am: 32

MSM (6th-12th): 14
Messiah Kids (K-5th): 8
Insight: 10

2025 GIVING

Proposed Operating Budget: \$680,068
YTD Operating Budget: \$39,235
YTD Giving Received: \$47,177
Average Weekly Need: \$13,078
Received Last Week: \$8,261

STEWARDSHIP VERSE OF THE WEEK

Psalm 95:2

Let us come into His presence with
thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise
to Him with songs of praise.