

MESSIAH
L U T H E R A N
† C H U R C H †

March 2, 2025
11:00 am
Family Praise and Worship



And the peace of
God

*which surpasses all understanding
will guard your hearts
and your minds
in*

Christ Jesus.

Pastor Kurt Hoover
Worship Coordinator Justin Brown
Technology Coordinator Nikolai Stier
Children's Ministry Director Leslie McFarland
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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: Wipe Out Worry"

(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

Ecclesiastes 2:22-26 (NLT)

Reader: Tom Bond

²² So what do people get in this life for all their hard work and anxiety? ²³ Their days of labor are filled with pain and grief; even at night their minds cannot rest. It is all meaningless.

²⁴ So I decided there is nothing better than to enjoy food and drink and to find satisfaction in work. Then I realized that these pleasures are from the hand of God. ²⁵ For who can eat or enjoy anything apart from him? ²⁶ God gives wisdom, knowledge, and joy to those who please him. But if a sinner becomes wealthy, God takes the wealth away and gives it to those who please him. This, too, is meaningless—like chasing the wind.

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

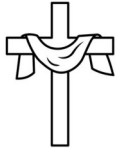
Philippians 4:4-7 (ESV)

⁴ Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice. ⁵ Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand; ⁶ do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷ And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

GOSPEL LESSON

Luke 5:1-11 (ESV)

¹ On one occasion, while the crowd was pressing in on him to hear the word of God, he was standing by the lake of Gennesaret, ² and he saw two boats by the lake, but the fishermen had gone out of them and were washing their nets. ³ Getting into one of the boats, which was Simon's, he asked him to put out a little from the land. And he sat down and taught the people from the boat. ⁴ And when he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, "Put out into the deep and let down your nets for a catch." ⁵ And Simon answered, "Master, we toiled all night and took nothing! But at your word I will let down the nets." ⁶ And when they had done this, they enclosed a large number of fish, and their nets were breaking. ⁷ They signaled to their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both the boats, so that they began to sink. ⁸ But when Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, "Depart from me, for I am a sinful man, O Lord." ⁹ For he and all who were with him were astonished at the catch of fish that they had taken, ¹⁰ and so also were James and John, sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. And Jesus said to Simon, "Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching men." ¹¹ And when they had brought their boats to land, they left everything and followed him.



LENTEN SOUP SUPPERS & WORSHIP

Wednesdays during Lent

beginning Ash Wednesday, **March 5th**.

Supper at 5:30 p.m. followed by worship at 7 p.m. (ends April 9th).



BE SURE TO **SIGN UP IN THE NARTHEX** TO BRING
SOUP, SALAD, BREAD OR DESSERT.

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.

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 **March 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 **March 11th**. 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 **March 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, 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 **March 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 March, on the **14th**. Please reach out to Season Lawler for more info.

WEDNESDAY EVENINGS DURING LENT

See page 12 for information on Lenten Wednesdays... Soup Suppers and worship schedule.

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 - NEW DATE and VENUE

You're invited! One night, three hours - Just for women! Friday, **April 4th** from 6-9 p.m. at Calvary Assembly of God in Flossmoor. 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 12th**:



MESSIAH KIDS (pre-K to 5th grades)

CHILDREN'S CHOIR

March rehearsals are on the 16th and 23rd. We'll perform on **March 30th** during the 9:30 service. We will wrap up our season in April, with rehearsal on April 6th and our final performance on April 27th during the 9:30 service.

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"

presentation is this morning, 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 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.

PRAY JOLIET - TODAY!

Pray Joliet's spring prayer gathering is this evening, **March 2nd** from 6-8 p.m. at Mosaic Community Church at 191 S. Larkin. The theme is, "Pray Like Daniel." See what happens when we close our eyes and pray together!

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

SUNDAY (March 2)

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

MONDAY (March 3)

n/a

TUESDAY (March 4)

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

ASH WEDNESDAY (March 5)

5:30 p.m. Lenten Soup Supper
7 p.m. Worship

THURSDAY (March 6)

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 (March 7)

9:15 a.m. MOMCo
6:30 p.m. Bunco

SATURDAY (March 8)

9 a.m. Worship Team Rehearsal
10 a.m. Youth Board Meeting

SUNDAY (March 9)

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. Mom & Me Tea

ATTENDANCE

LAST WEEK:

8:00 am: 47

9:30 am: 69

11:00 am: 53

Online: 39

MSM (6th-12th): 11

Messiah Kids (K-5th): 13

2025 GIVING

Operating Budget: \$680,068

YTD Operating Budget: \$104,626

YTD Giving Received: \$94,728

Average Weekly Need: \$13,078

Received Last Week: \$7,094

STEWARDSHIP VERSE OF THE WEEK

Proverbs 11:24

Give freely and
become more wealthy;
be stingy and
lose everything.