

MESSIAH
LUTHERAN
CHURCH 
CELEBRATING 125 YEARS

June 28, 2026
Fifth Sunday after Pentecost
8:30 a.m.



**Whoever receives you receives me,
and whoever receives me
receives him who sent me.**

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

40 Houbolt Rd.
Joliet, IL 60431

(815) 741-4488
www.mlcjoliet.org

Welcome to Messiah Lutheran Church

June 28, 2026

8:30 a.m.

Enter Reverently, Worship Joyfully, Live Faithfully

PRELUDE

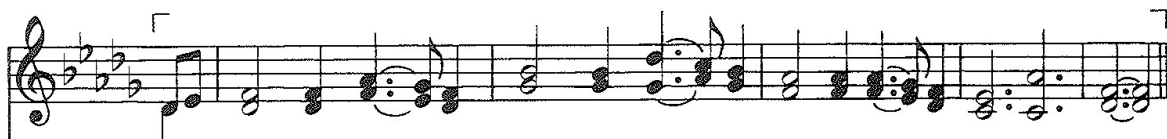
Rose Ann Sochan

OPENING HYMN

"Just As I Am," #342 v. 1-5



1. Just as I am, with - out one plea But that Thy blood was shed for me,
2. Just as I am, and wait - ing not To rid my soul of one dark blot,
3. Just as I am, tho tossed a - bout With man - y a con - flict, man - y a doubt,
4. Just as I am, poor, wretched, blind—Sight, rich - es, heal - ing of the mind,
5. Just as I am, Thou wilt re - ceive, Wilt wel - come, par - don, cleanse, relieve;



And that Thou bidd'st me come to Thee, O Lamb of God, I come! I come!
To Thee whose blood can cleanse each spot, O Lamb of God, I come! I come!
Fight - ings and fears with - in, with - out, O Lamb of God, I come! I come!
Yea, all I need in Thee to find— O Lamb of God, I come! I come!
Be - cause Thy prom - ise I be - lieve, O Lamb of God, I come! I come!

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

HYMN OF PRAISE

"At Calvary," #338 v. 1-2



1. Years I spent in van - i - ty and pride, Car - ing not my Lord was
 2. By God's Word at last my sin I learned— Then I trem-bled at the
 3. Now I've giv'n to Je - sus ev - 'ry - thing, Now I glad - ly own Him
 4. O the love that drew sal - va - tion's plan! O the grace that bro't it



cru - ci - fied, Know-ing not it was for me He died On Cal - va - ry.
 law I'd spurned, Till my guilt-y soul im-plor-ing turned To Cal - va - ry.
 as my King, Now my rap-tured soul can on - ly sing Of Cal - va - ry.
 down to man! O the might-y gulf that God did span At Cal - va - ry.

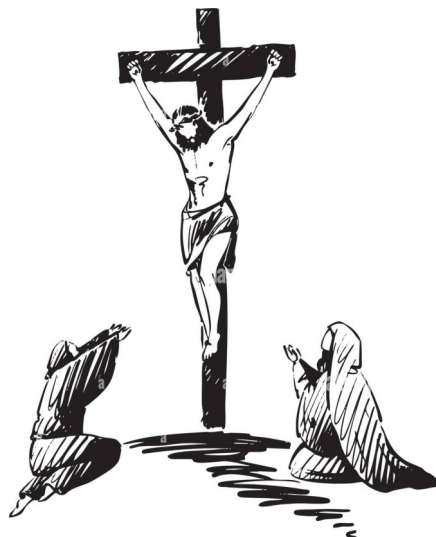
Refrain



Mer - cy there was great and grace was free, Par - don there was mul - ti -



plied to me, There my bur-dened soul found lib - er - ty—At Cal - va - ry.



HYMN OF PRAISE

"Majesty," #74 (2X)

Maj - es - ty, wor-ship His maj - es - ty. Un - to
Je - sus be all glo - ry, hon - or, and praise. Maj - es - ty,
king - dom au - thor - i - ty flow from His throne un - to His own;
His an - them raise. So ex - alt, lift up on high the name of
Je - sus. Mag - ni - fy, come glo - ri - fy Christ Je - sus, the King.
Maj - es - ty, wor-ship His maj - es - ty;
Je - sus who died, now glo - ri - fied, King of all kings.

HYMN OF PRAISE

"Turn Your Eyes upon Jesus," #335 (2X)

Turn your eyes up-on Je - sus, Look full in His won - der - ful face,
won - der - ful face,
And the things of earth will grow strange - ly dim In the light of His glo - ry and grace.

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

Join us at the 10:45 service this morning for our Emerald Crossing VBS Celebration!

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

Rose Ann Sochan

RESPONSE

Doxology #625

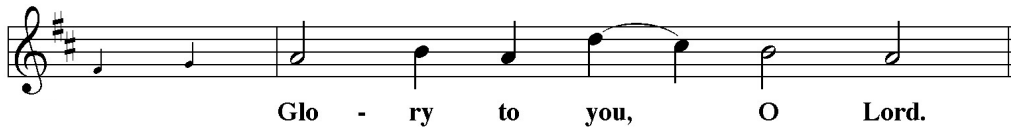


FIRST LESSON, Jeremiah 28:5-9 (ESV)

Reader: Paul Allen

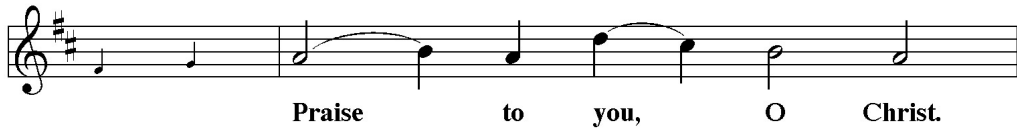
⁵Then the prophet Jeremiah spoke to Hananiah the prophet in the presence of the priests and all the people who were standing in the house of the LORD, ⁶and the prophet Jeremiah said, "Amen! May the LORD do so; may the LORD make the words that you have prophesied come true, and bring back to this place from Babylon the vessels of the house of the LORD, and all the exiles. ⁷Yet hear now this word that I speak in your hearing and in the hearing of all the people. ⁸The prophets who preceded you and me from ancient times prophesied war, famine, and pestilence against many countries and great kingdoms. ⁹As for the prophet who prophesies peace, when the word of that prophet comes to pass, then it will be known that the LORD has truly sent the prophet."

SECOND LESSON, Matthew 10: 34-42 (ESV)



³⁴ "Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth. I have not come to bring peace, but a sword. ³⁵ For I have come to set a man against his father, and a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law. ³⁶ And a person's enemies will be those of his own household. ³⁷ Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me, and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me. ³⁸ And whoever does not take his cross and follow me is not worthy of me. ³⁹ Whoever finds his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it.

⁴⁰ "Whoever receives you receives me, and whoever receives me receives him who sent me. ⁴¹ The one who receives a prophet because he is a prophet will receive a prophet's reward, and the one who receives a righteous person because he is a righteous person will receive a righteous person's reward. ⁴² And whoever gives one of these little ones even a cup of cold water because he is a disciple, truly, I say to you, he will by no means lose his reward."



MESSAGE "Discipleship: Ministry to the Least" Pastor Kurt Hoover

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

HYMN "The Church's One Foundation," #277 v. 1-3



1. The Church-'s one foun - da - tion Is Je - sus Christ her Lord;
 2. E - lect from ev - 'ry na - tion, Yet one o'er all the earth,
 3. 'Mid toil and trib - u - la - tion And tu - mult of her war,
 4. Yet she on earth hath un - ion With God the Three in One,



She is His new cre - a - tion By wa - ter and the Word:
 Her char - ter of sal - va - tion One Lord, one faith, one birth;
 She waits the con - sum - ma - tion Of peace for - ev - er - more;
 And mys - tic sweet com - mun - ion With those whose rest is won:



From heav'n He came and sought her To be His ho - ly bride; With
 One ho - ly name she bless - es, Par - takes one ho - ly food, And
 Till with the vi - sion glo - rious Her long - ing eyes are blest, And
 O hap - py ones and ho - ly! Lord, give us grace that we, Like



His own blood He bought her, And for her life He died.
 to one hope she press - es, With ev - 'ry grace en - dued.
 the great Church vic - to - rious Shall be the Church at rest.
 them, the meek and low - ly, On high may dwell with Thee. A - men.

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: Tom & Lynn Bond, 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 HYMNS

"I Lay My Sins on Jesus," #340
"Love Lifted Me," #505

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

"Whiter Than Snow," #436 v. 1-2



1. Lord Je - sus, I long to be per - fect - ly whole; I
2. Lord Je - sus, look down from Your throne in the skies And
3. Lord Je - sus, for this I most hum - bly en - treat; I
4. Lord Je - sus, be - fore You I pa - tient - ly wait; Come



want Thee for - ev - er to live in my soul. Break down ev - ery
help me to make a com - plete sac - ri - fice. I give up my-
wait, bless - ed Lord, at Thy cru - ci - fied feet. By faith, for my
now and with - in me a new heart cre - ate. To those who have



i - dol, cast out ev - ery foe— Now wash me and I shall be
 self and what - ev - er I know— Now wash me and I shall be
 cleans-ing I see Your blood flow— Now wash me and I shall be
 sought You, You nev - er said, "No"— Now wash me and I shall be



whit - er than snow. Whit - er than snow, yes, whit - er than



snow— Now wash me and I shall be whit - er than snow.

POSTLUDE

Rose Ann Sochan

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

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THANK YOU!

A huge thank you to our volunteers who took our VBS children through Emerald Crossing! We give special thanks to our VBS Director, Stephanie Knudsen-Feehan, and the support of Megan and Justin Kuhn. (Megan and Justin also renovated our nursery this summer so be sure to give them a shout out and thank you!)



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 RESUMES

Our Sunday morning Bible Study for adults resumes on **July 12th** at 9:40 in Fellowship Hall. Our opening topic will be "Resurrection of the Body."

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 attendee - 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.



MEMORY BEARS

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 **June 30th** (bumped out one week due to VBS). We have jobs that do not require sewing! Reach out to Cindi Souza at regency118@icloud.com or 815-931-8478 for more info.

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. Reach out to Cindi Souza at regency118@icloud.com or 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, reach out to Cindi Souza at regency118@icloud.com or 815-931-8478, or Beth Hohisel at bhohisel@hotmail.com.

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

Messiah Quilters meet the 3rd Tuesday each month from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. **Please note that we will not meet in July.** 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.

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 **August 18th**!

MESSIAH KIDS (pre-K to 5th grades)

MESSIAH KIDS WEDNESDAYS (MKW) SUMMER PROGRAM

Our summer MKW kickoff is on **July 1st** 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 is hosting 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.

SUMMER S.A.L.T. (for both FAM and H2H groups)

This summer we're meeting in a combined format for 6th-12th graders! 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.

ALTAR FLOWERS

Altar flowers are provided in celebration of the June 27th wedding of Keith Jurich & Amy Anderson.

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, June 28

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

MONDAY, June 29

n/a

TUESDAY, June 30

9 a.m. Memory Bears

WEDNESDAY, July 1

5 p.m. Bible Bee
6 p.m. Summer SALT
6:30 p.m. MKW kickoff

THURSDAY, July 2

10:15 a.m. Prayer Group
12 p.m. Staff Meeting

FRIDAY, July 3

n/a

SATURDAY, July 4

9 a.m. Worship Team Rehearsal

SUNDAY, July 5

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

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

ATTENDANCE

LAST WEEK:

8:30: 75
10:45: 30
Online: 14

2026 GIVING

Operating Budget: \$694,359
YTD Operating Budget: \$333,826
YTD Giving Received: \$255,243
Needed Each Week: \$13,353
Received Last Week: \$6,525

1st Quarter 2026

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

STEWARDSHIP VERSE OF THE WEEK

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

Rejoice always, pray without ceasing,
give thanks in all circumstances;
for this is the will of God in Christ
Jesus for you.

