MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH
CELEBRATING 125 YEARS

November 8, 2026
Twenty-fourth Sunday after Pentecost
8:30 a.m.



Therefore keep watch,
because you do not know
the day or the hour.

Senior Pastor Kurt Hoover
Pastor Emeritus David Nygard
Guest Pianist Kathy Frost
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

November 8, 2026 - 8:30 a.m.

Enter Reverently, Worship Joyfully, Live Faithfully

PRELUDE Kathy Frost

OPENING HYMN "Great Is Thy Faithfulness," #43 v. 1-3



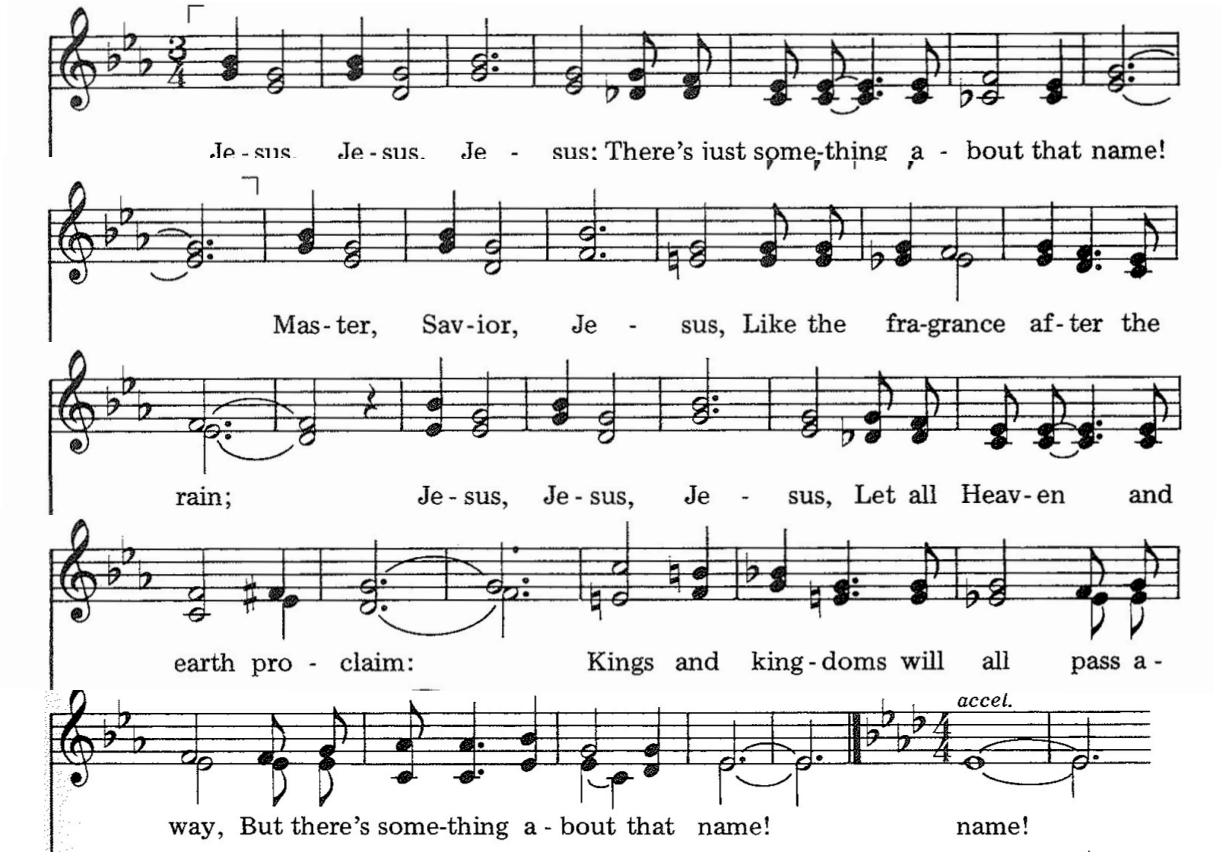
LITANY BASED ON PSALM 51:10-12

Leader: Create in me a pure heart, O Lord,
All: and renew a steadfast spirit in me.
Leader: Do not cast me from your presence,
All: or take your Holy Spirit from me.
Leader: Restore to me the joy of your salvation,
All: and grant me a willing spirit to sustain me.
Leader: We worship You Lord in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
All: Amen.

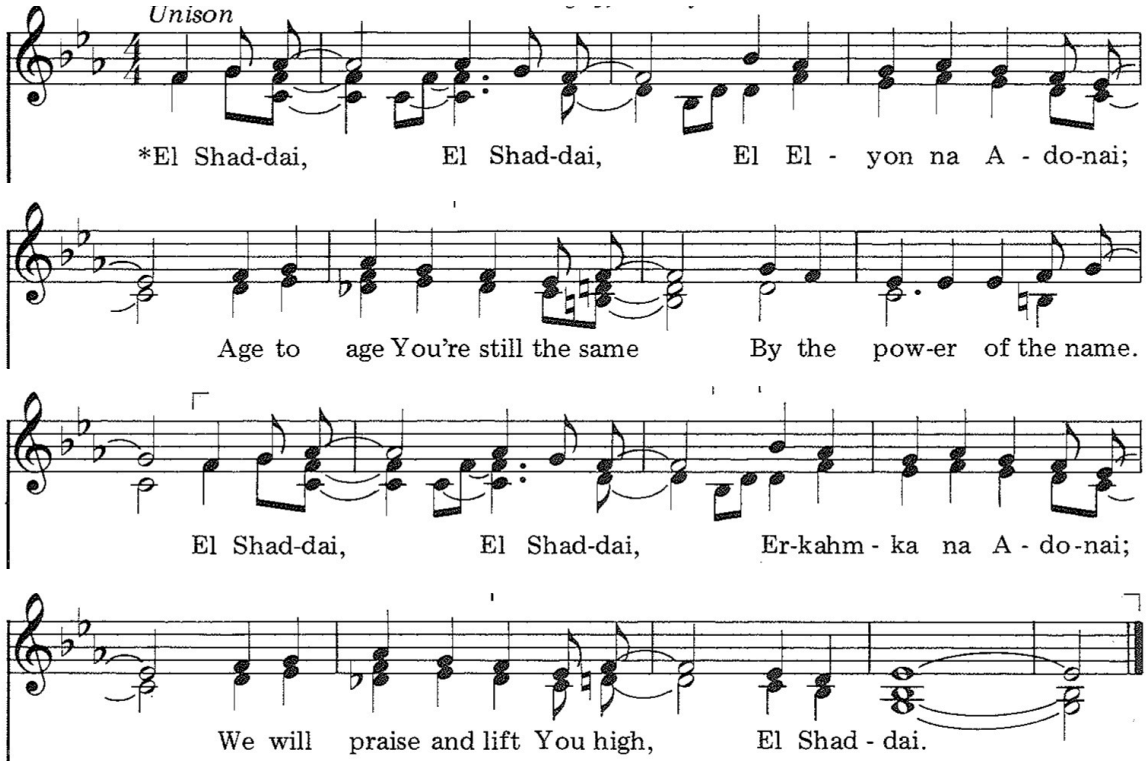
WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

SANCTUARY CHOIR ANTHEM "When the Kingdom Comes,"
arr. Greg Gilpin, led by Herb Alexander

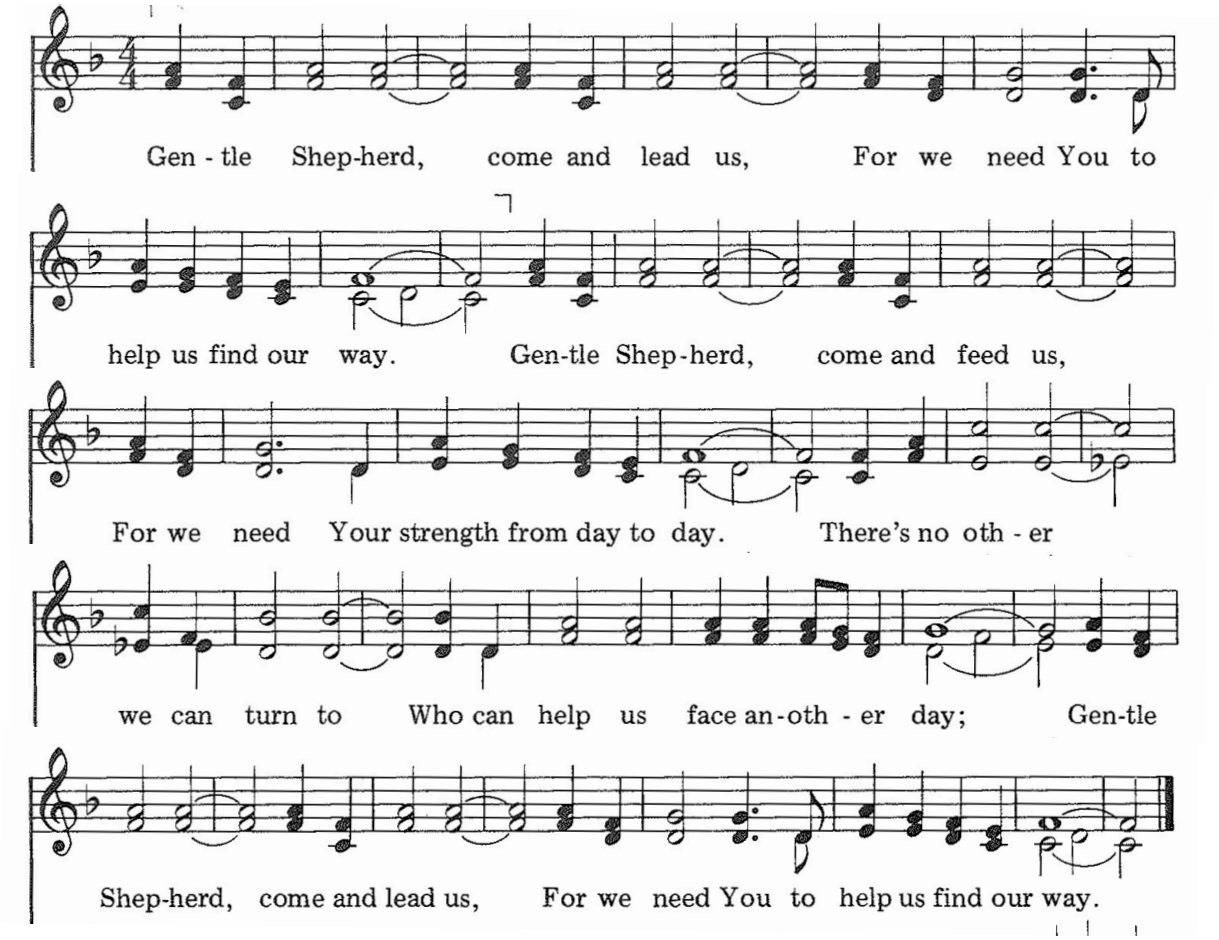
HYMN OF PRAISE "There's Something About That Name," #102 (2X)



HYMN OF PRAISE "El Shaddai," #36 (2X)



HYMN OF PRAISE "Gentle Shepherd," #458



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.

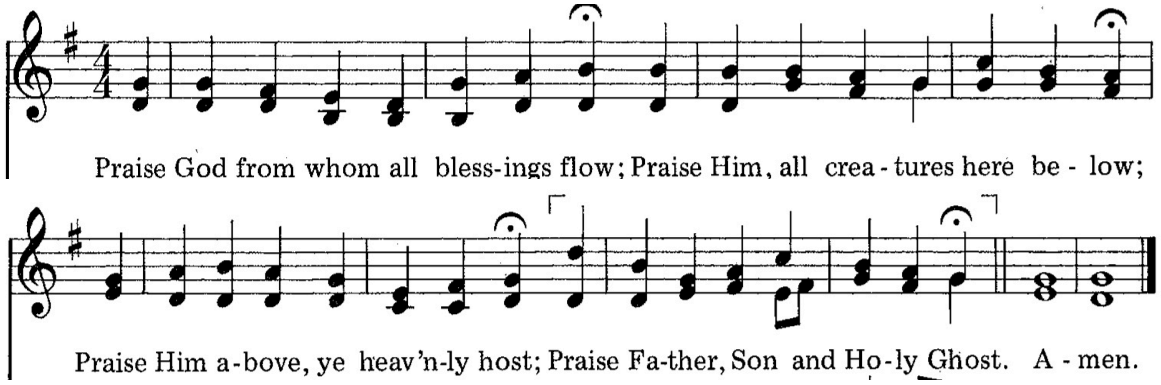
Leader: By the mercy of God we are united with Jesus Christ, and in Him we are forgiven. We rest now in His peace and rise every morning to serve Him. **Amen.**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE Kersten Stier

OFFERING

OFFERTORY Kathy Frost

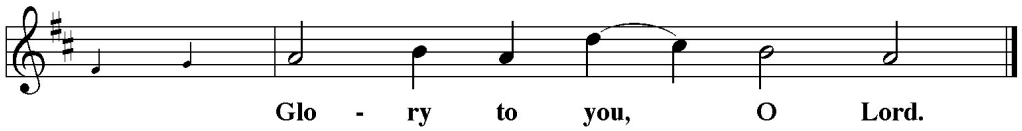
RESPONSE Doxology #625



FIRST LESSON, Isaiah 26:1-4 (NIV) Reader: Jane Costello

1 In that day this song will be sung in the land of Judah: We have a strong city;
God makes salvation its walls and ramparts. 2 Open the gates that the righteous
nation may enter, the nation that keeps faith. 3 You will keep in perfect peace
those whose minds are steadfast, because they trust in you. 4 Trust in the Lord
forever, for the Lord, the Lord himself, is the Rock eternal.

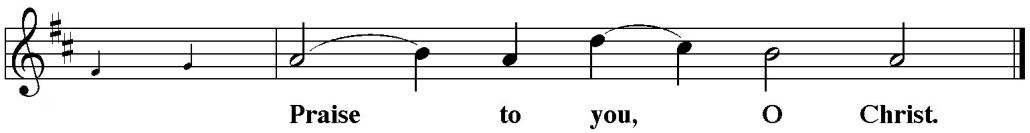
SECOND LESSON, Matthew 25:1-13 (NIV)



1 "At that time the kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their
lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom. 2 Five of them were foolish and five
were wise. 3 The foolish ones took their lamps but did not take any oil with them.
4 The wise ones, however, took oil in jars along with their lamps. 5 The
bridegroom was a long time in coming, and they all became drowsy and fell
asleep.

6 "At midnight the cry rang out: 'Here's the bridegroom! Come out to meet him!'
7 "Then all the virgins woke up and trimmed their lamps. 8 The foolish ones said
to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil; our lamps are going out.' 9 "'No,' they
replied, 'there may not be enough for both us and you. Instead, go to those who
sell oil and buy some for yourselves.' 10 "But while they were on their way to buy
the oil, the bridegroom arrived. The virgins who were ready went in with him to
the wedding banquet. And the door was shut.

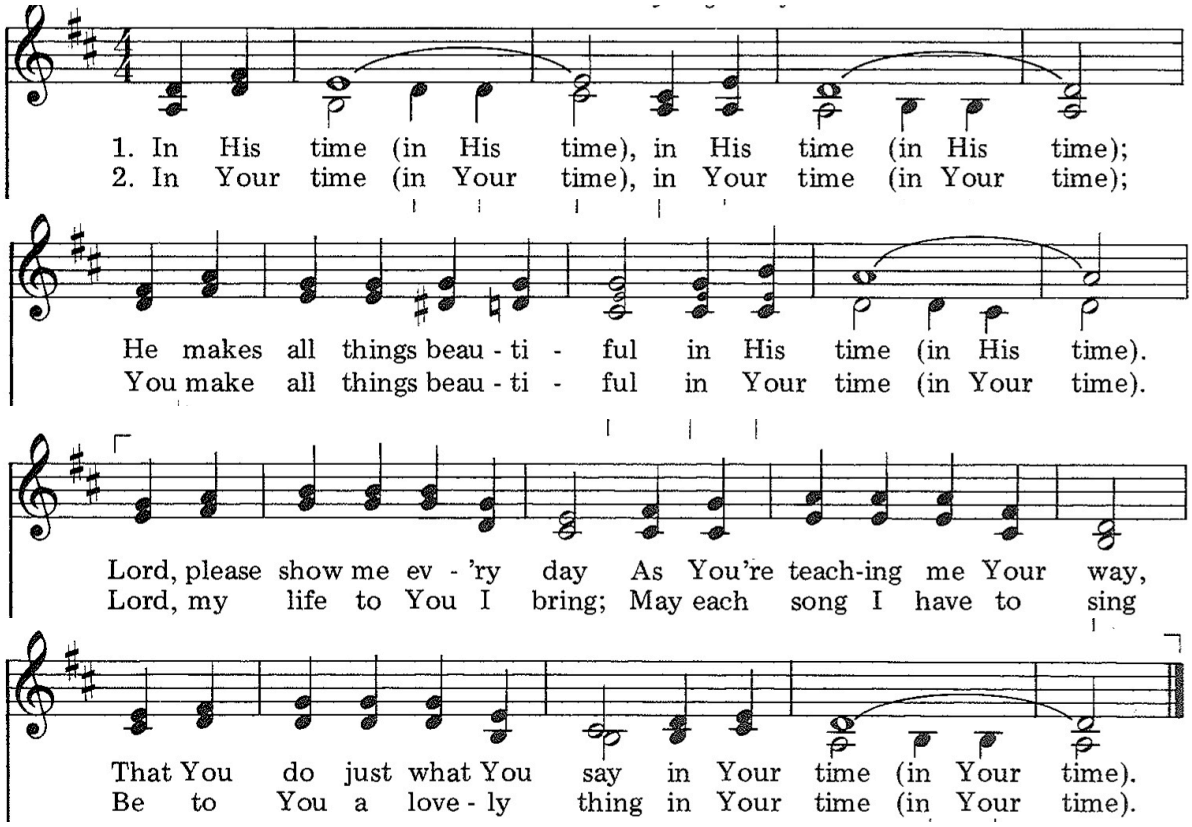
11 "Later the others also came. 'Lord, Lord,' they said, 'open the door for us! 12
"But he replied, 'Truly I tell you, I don't know you.' 13 "Therefore keep watch,
because you do not know the day or the hour.



MESSAGE **"When the Kingdom Comes"**
Pastor Emeritus David Nygard

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

HYMN "In His Time," #465 v. 1 & 2



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

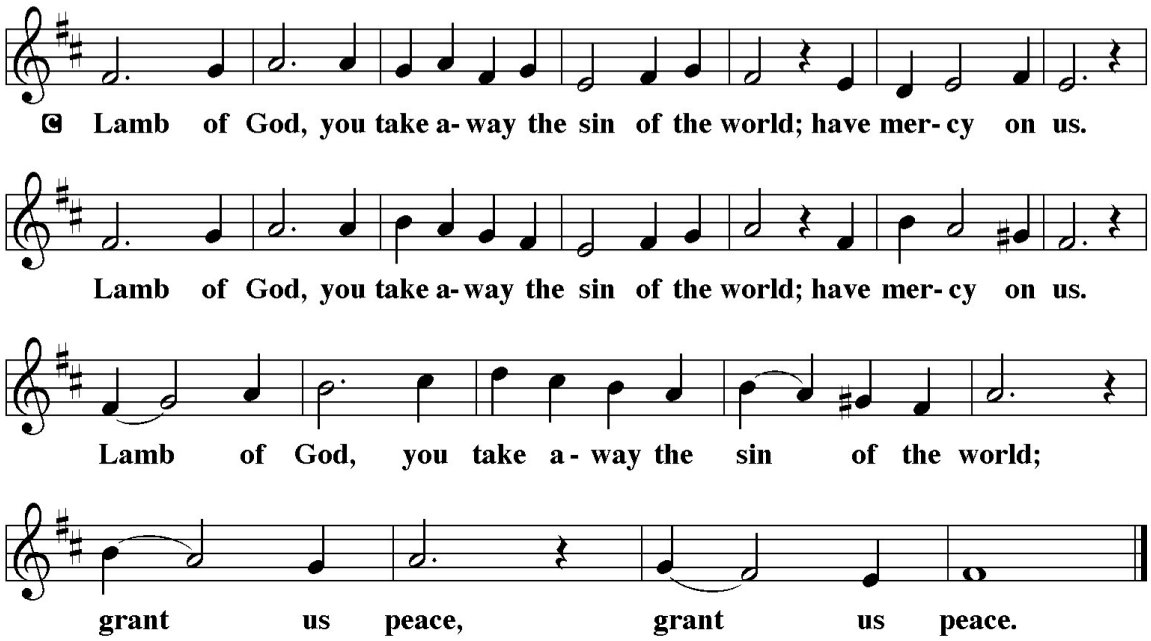
SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION
Servers: Nancy Bertnik, Jane Costello, Cindi Souza

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORD'S PRAYER

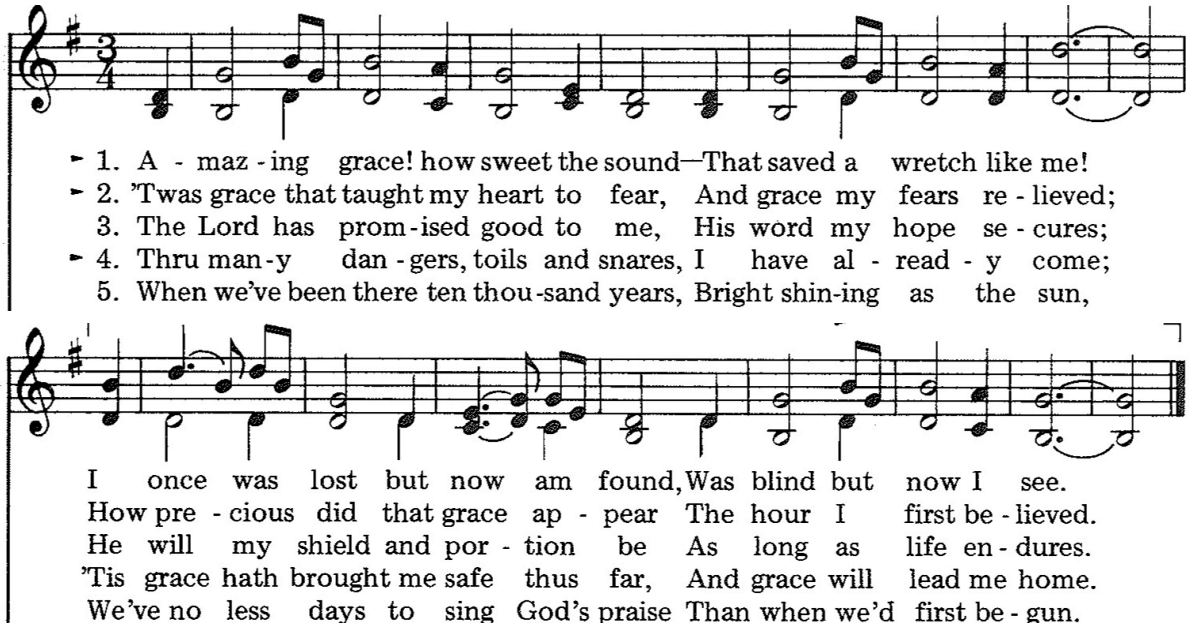
HYMN

"Lamb of God"



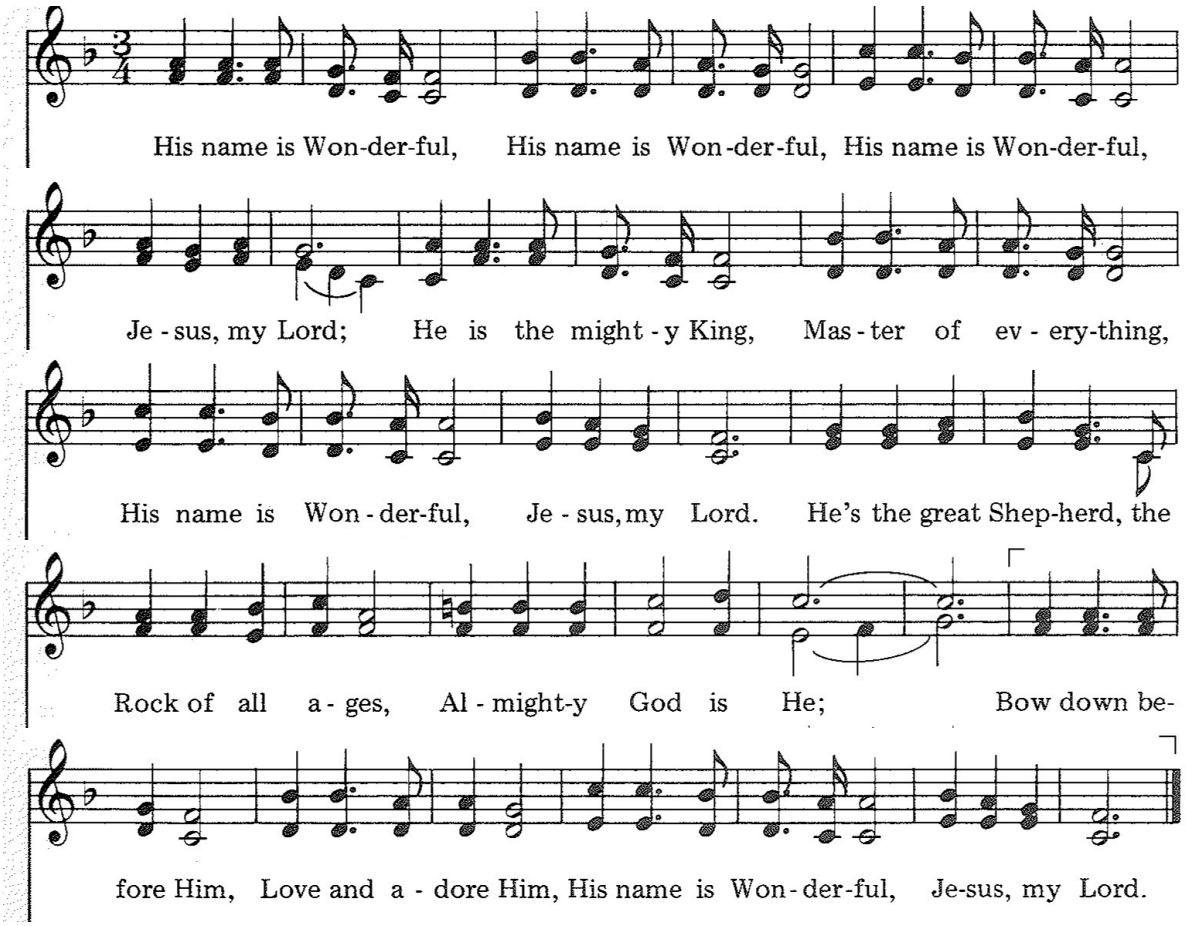
COMMUNION HYMNS

"Amazing Grace," #202





"His Name Is Wonderful," #101



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 "Living for Jesus," #372 v. 1-2



POSTLUDE Kathy Frost

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

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NEWS & OPPORTUNITIES TO GET INVOLVED

ADULT "INSIGHT" BIBLE STUDY
Our Sunday morning Bible Study for adults is at 9:40 in Fellowship Hall. Our current series focuses on The Ten Commandments.

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 Insight is finished. 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.

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.

FAITH & BODY



Lace up your shoes and enjoy a walk in the Family Life Center, weekly on Thursdays (Sept-May) from 9-10 a.m. Everyone walks at their own pace and it's a great time for fellowship!

GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP
Please join Messiah's Grief Support Group on the **first Thursday every month** (Sept-May) at 1 p.m. in Room 101. This group offers caring and confidential space for those currently walking through loss or those who have suffered loss in the past. You are not alone - We are here to support one another. Questions may be directed to Pat Burke or Judy Fowler.



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 November meeting is being rescheduled due to Thanksgiving. Machine sewists are needed! Reach out to Cindi Souza at regency118@icloud.com or 815-931-8478 for more info.

MESSIAH APPAREL & ACCESSORIES
Check out the Messiah apparel and accessories display in the Narthex!
Purchase clothing, hats, mugs & more by scanning this QR code:

OWLS (Older, Wiser, Loving Seniors)
OWLS meets the 2nd Tuesday of every month at noon, September-May. We enjoy a light lunch together, play trivia, and usually feature a guest speaker or entertainment!



Turkey, gravy, mashed potatoes, and beverages will be provided for **our November 10** luncheon as we celebrate our veterans, and we'll feature a guests speaker from the Will County Health Dept. to talk about diabetes and hypertension. We ask that everyone sign up in the Narthex so we have a headcount, and to let us know what you will bring to share.

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. The next quilting day is November 17. 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. 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.



We are in need of clean sheets of, any size, flat or fitted (no stains or holes) to be used as backs for our quilts. There is a collection basket in the Narthex. 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 **November 17**!

STAY-N-PLAY
Our FREE weekly open gym play group for kids five and under (along with their caretaker) meets in the Family Life Center every Tuesday morning (Sept-May) from 10-11:30. Bring the littles for play time! Adults enjoy coffee on us! Please like our Facebook page (MLC Stay-N-Play Playgroup) for additional information, and share with your friends and neighbors!

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY
Join us for Women's Bible Study on Wednesday afternoons at 1 in the Fireside Room!

CHRISTMAS TEA
Join us on December 12 from 1-3 p.m. in Fellowship Hall for Christmas Tea! Tickets will be available in the Narthex 11/22,11/29 and 12/06.

YOUNG ADULT BIBLE STUDY
Those post-high school and older are invited to join us for Bible study on Sunday mornings during Education Hour in classroom #101. Coffee and occasional breakfast treats will be provided.

MESSIAH KIDS (pre-K to 5th grades)

CHILDREN'S CHOIR
For information please reach out to Season Lawler.

MESSIAH KIDS WEDNESDAYS (MKW)
MKW meets Wednesday evenings from 6-8 p.m. in the upper level Kidz Club! Join us for family dinner beforehand, starting at 5!

SUNDAY SCHOOL
We meet upstairs in the Kidz Club during Education Hour at 9:40 a.m.

MESSIAH STUDENT MINISTRIES (6th to 12th grades)

BIBLE STUDY (SUNDAY MORNINGS)
Bible Study for high schoolers is in the Fireside Room continues year-round.

FRIENDS & MENTORS (FAM) FOR HIGH SCHOOLERS - Moved to Tuesdays
Join us for mid-week Bible Study, connect with peers, play games, sing praise and more! FAM meets on TUESDAY evenings (Sept-April) from 6-8.

HEAD 2 HEART (H2H)
Our H2H Confirmation Program for 6th-8th graders runs on Wednesdays evenings (Sept-April) from 6-8. Join us for family dinner beforehand, starting at 5!

MAFIA NIGHT - Attention 6th-12th graders!
Join us fort Capture the Flag/Tag in the Dark! Mark your calendar for our next MAFIA night on **November 13** from 6-10 p.m. Bring friends, and $5 per person if you'd like to join us for pizza.

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. For students **6th through 12th grade**, email Kersten Stier, Youth Director, at stumin@mlcjoliet.org.

My Dearest Messiah Family,
I can't thank you enough for your thoughtfulness on my beautiful day. Sharing 50 years with each of you brought joy to my heart and overflowed my cup of gratitude. There truly aren't enough words to express how grateful I am for your outpouring love. Each of you made my perfect day more memorable and the warmth I felt will last forever. Much thanks and many blessings!

Love, Rose Ann

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD





Boxes are now available in the Narthex.

Please turn them in no later than November 15.



Order here:

NaperVoice
SING WELL. DO GOOD.™

NaperVoice's fall 2026 concert is Sunday, **November 15** at 4 p.m. at Grace United Methodist Church in Naperville. Admission is $21.50 for adults, $16.50 for seniors, $6 for students 13 and older. Please **select Herb Alexander** as the credited choir member. Tickets are available at: www.napervoice.org



MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH

PODCAST

DAILY DEVOTIONAL PODCAST
"WORD PLAY!"

God has a Word for you!

Hosted by Pastor Kurt Hoover and Nikolai Stier,
we delve into the Scripture readings for the coming week
by focusing on one word in the passage.

Look for a new episode each weekday as we exchange insights
into the word of God ...along with some nerdy banter.

Find us on Spotify here:

ALTAR FLOWERS

Altar flowers are provided by Donna Anderson in loving memory of Shirley Jurich.

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, November 8
8:30 a.m. Traditional Worship
9:40 a.m. Education Hour for All Ages
10:45 a.m. Family Praise & Worship
1 p.m. Cristo Rey Worship

Monday, November 9
n/a

Tuesday, November 10
10 a.m. Stay-n-Play
12 p.m. OWLS
6 p.m. F.A.M.

Wednesday, November 11
1 p.m. Women's Bible Study
5 p.m. Family Dinner
6 p.m. H2H, MKW

Thursday, November 12
9 a.m. Faith & Body
10:15 a.m. Prayer Group
12 p.m. Staff Meeting
7:15 p.m. Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

Friday, November 13
6 pm. Mafia Night

Saturday, November 14
9 a.m. Worship Team Rehearsal

Sunday, November 15
8:30 a.m. Traditional Worship
9:40 a.m. Education Hour for All Ages
10:45 a.m. Family Praise & Worship
1 p.m. Cristo Rey Worship

ATTENDANCE

LAST WEEK:
8:30: 110
10:45: 62
Online: 29
Insight: n/a
K-5: 8
MSM: 2
HS: 3
Young Adult: 0
MKW: 6

2026 GIVING

Operating Budget: $694,359
YTD Operating Budget: $587,535
YTD Giving Received: $487,930
Needed Each Week: $13,353
Received Last Week: $11,678

STEWARDSHIP VERSE OF THE WEEK

Proverbs 11:24
One person gives freely, yet gains even more; another withholds unduly, but comes to poverty.

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

MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH