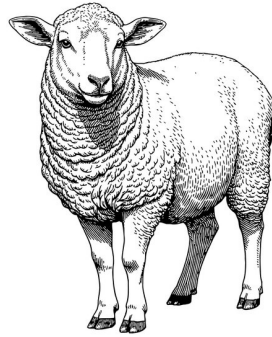




Family Praise & Worship
June 21, 2026
10:45 a.m.



**"BEHOLD, I AM SENDING YOU OUT AS SHEEP IN THE MIDST OF
WOLVES, SO BE WISE AS SERPENTS AND INNOCENT AS DOVES."**

Senior Pastor Kurt Hoover
Worship Coordinator Justin Brown
Technology Coordinator Nikolai Stier

40 Houbolt Rd.
Joliet, IL 60431

815.741.4488
www.mlcjoliet.org

WORSHIP TODAY

Call To Worship

Welcome

Worship Through Songs

Worship Through Giving

Children's Message

Leslie McFarland

Worship Through Hearing God's Word

Message

"Discipleship: Ministry of Persecution"

Pastor Kurt Hoover

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

Worship Through Song

Prayers of Intercession

Prayer of Confession & Forgiveness

Communion

The Lord's Prayer

Announcements

Closing Song

FIRST LESSON, Jeremiah 20:7-9 (ESV)

Reader: needed

⁷ O LORD, you have deceived me, and I was deceived; you are stronger than I, and you have prevailed. I have become a laughingstock all the day; everyone mocks me. ⁸ For whenever I speak, I cry out, I shout, "Violence and destruction!" For the word of the LORD has become for me a reproach and derision all day long. ⁹ If I say, "I will not mention him, or speak any more in his name," there is in my heart as it were a burning fire shut up in my bones, and I am weary with holding it in, and I cannot.

SECOND LESSON, Matthew 10:16-33 (ESV)

¹⁶ "Behold, I am sending you out as sheep in the midst of wolves, so be wise as serpents and innocent as doves. ¹⁷ Beware of men, for they will deliver you over to courts and flog you in their synagogues, ¹⁸ and you will be dragged before governors and kings for my sake, to bear witness before them and the Gentiles. ¹⁹ When they deliver you over, do not be anxious how you are to speak or what you are to say, for what you are to say will be given to you in that hour. ²⁰ For it is not you who speak, but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you. ²¹ Brother will deliver brother over to death, and the father his child, and children will rise against parents and have them put to death, ²² and you will be hated by all for my name's sake. But the one who endures to the end will be saved. ²³ When they persecute you in one town, flee to the next, for truly, I say to you, you will not have gone through all the towns of Israel before the Son of Man comes.

²⁴ "A disciple is not above his teacher, nor a servant above his master. ²⁵ It is enough for the disciple to be like his teacher, and the servant like his master. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebul, how much more will they malign those of his household.

²⁶ "So have no fear of them, for nothing is covered that will not be revealed, or hidden that will not be known. ²⁷ What I tell you in the dark, say in the light, and what you hear whispered, proclaim on the housetops. ²⁸ And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell. ²⁹ Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? And not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father. ³⁰ But even the hairs of your head are all numbered. ³¹ Fear not, therefore; you are of more value than many sparrows. ³² So everyone who acknowledges me before men, I also will acknowledge before my Father who is in heaven, ³³ but whoever denies me before men, I also will deny before my Father who is in heaven.



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 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.



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!

PRAY JOLIET

We hope you can join us on Saturday, **June 27th**, from 8-10 a.m. for Pray Joliet's monthly Prayer Walk. This month, we meet at AO Marshall School, 319 Harwood St.

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.

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. 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 **July 21st**!

MESSIAH KIDS (pre-K to 5th grades)

MESSIAH KIDS WEDNESDAYS (MKW) SUMMER PROGRAM

Kickoff date change: 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.



VBS is June 22-26!

Register here:



Questions? Email Stephanie at VBS@mlcjoliet.org.

Discipleship

SERMON SERIES
MAY 31 - AUGUST 23, 2026

*"The harvest
is plentiful,
but the
laborers
are few."*



*What
ministry
has God
given you?*



MESSIAH
LUTHERAN
CHURCH



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 Judy Fowler in loving memory of Renee Whalen.

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 21

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

MONDAY, June 22

VBS 9 a.m.-noon

TUESDAY, June 23

VBS 9 a.m.-noon

WEDNESDAY, June 24

VBS 9 a.m.-noon
5 p.m. Bible Bee

THURSDAY, June 25

VBS 9 a.m.-noon

FRIDAY, June 26

VBS 9 a.m.-noon

SATURDAY, June 27

9 a.m. Worship Team Rehearsal

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
1 p.m. Cristo Rey Worship

ATTENDANCE

LAST WEEK:

8:30: 58
10:45: 45
Online: 26

2026 GIVING

Operating Budget: \$694,359
YTD Operating Budget: \$320,473
YTD Giving Received: \$248,733
Needed Each Week: \$13,353
Received Last Week: \$6,759

1st Quarter 2026

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

STEWARDSHIP VERSE OF THE WEEK

2 Corinthians 2:14

But thanks to God, who in Christ always leads us in triumphal procession, and through us spreads the fragrance of the knowledge of Him everywhere.



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

