

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

March 9, 2025
11:00 am
Family Praise and Worship

*The
Season
of
Lent*



Senior Pastor Kurt Hoover, Pastor Emeritus David Nygard
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

"Everybody Gets Tempted (Even Jesus)"

Pastor David Nygard

(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

Temple Talk - Easter Breakfast

Kersten Stier

Closing Song

OUR EPISTLE LESSON

Reader: needed

Romans 10:8b-13 (NIV)

⁸ But what does it say? "The word is near you; it is in your mouth and in your heart," that is, the message concerning faith that we proclaim: ⁹ If you declare with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰ For it is with your heart that you believe and are

justified, and it is with your mouth that you profess your faith and are saved. ¹¹ As Scripture says, "Anyone who believes in him will never be put to shame." ¹² For there is no difference between Jew and Gentile—the same Lord is Lord of all and richly blesses all who call on him, ¹³ for, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."

OUR GOSPEL LESSON

Luke 4:1-13 (NIV)

¹ Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, left the Jordan and was led by the Spirit into the wilderness, ² where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing during those days, and at the end of them he was hungry. ³ The devil said to him, "If you are the Son of God, tell this stone to become bread."

⁴ Jesus answered, "It is written: 'Man shall not live on bread alone.'"

⁵ The devil led him up to a high place and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. ⁶ And he said to him, "I will give you all their authority and splendor; it has been given to me, and I can give it to anyone I want to. ⁷ If you worship me, it will all be yours."

⁸ Jesus answered, "It is written: 'Worship the Lord your God and serve him only.'"

⁹ The devil led him to Jerusalem and had him stand on the highest point of the temple. "If you are the Son of God," he said, "throw yourself down from here. ¹⁰ For it is written: "'He will command his angels concerning you to guard you carefully; ¹¹ they will lift you up in their hands, so that you will not strike your foot against a stone.'"

¹² Jesus answered, "It is said: 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'"

¹³ When the devil had finished all this tempting, he left him until an opportune time.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

Pastor: Join me in confessing our sins and our need for God's forgiveness.

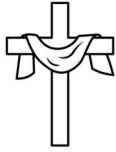
All: Dear Lord, I confess that I sin every day in my thoughts, words and actions. Please forgive my stubbornness, selfishness and attitudes. I pray for the gift of Your amazing grace.

Pastor: It is by God's grace that I declare to you that Jesus died to bring us forgiveness. In Jesus' name and by His mercy, your sins are forgiven and washed away. Thanks, and praise to God.

All: Amen.

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.



LENTEN SOUP SUPPERS & WORSHIP **Wednesdays during Lent**



through Wednesday, **April 9th**.

Supper at 5:30 p.m. followed by worship at 7 p.m.

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

Keep an eye out for information on **Bunco** nights and our next session of **Women's Bible Study**.

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

Fourth grade: "First Communion," in the Gathering House

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

Breaking Bread: Messiah kitchen, Palm Sunday April 13th at 9 a.m.

First Communion: Maundy Thursday service at 7 p.m.

Register here:



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. Please bring \$5 if you'd like to join us for pizza!

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.

EASTER LILIES

Order forms for Easter lilies are available in the Narthex and are due by March 23rd.



ALTAR FLOWERS

Our Altar flowers this morning are provided by Gerry & Pat Boe in honor & celebration of their 55th wedding anniversary.

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 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

MONDAY (March 10)

n/a

TUESDAY (March 11)

9:30 a.m. Stay-N-Play
12 p.m. OWLS
6:30 p.m. 3M

WEDNESDAY (March 12)

5:30 p.m. Lenten Soup Supper
6:30 p.m. H2H, FAM, MKW
7 p.m. Worship

THURSDAY (March 13)

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 14)

9:30 a.m. Stroller Moms

SATURDAY (March 15)

9 a.m. Worship Team Rehearsal
6 p.m. Dodgeball & Pizza

SUNDAY (March 16)

8 a.m. Worship
9:30 a.m. Worship (+online),
Sunday School & Bible Study for All Ages
11 a.m. Family Praise & Worship,
J-Church
1 p.m. Cristo Rey

ATTENDANCE

LAST WEEK:

8:00 am: 56

9:30 am: 85

11:00 am: 47

Online: 39

MSM (6th-12th): 13

Messiah Kids (K-5th): 13

2025 GIVING

Operating Budget: \$680,068

YTD Operating Budget: \$117,719

YTD Giving Received: \$105,719

Average Weekly Need: \$13,078

Received Last Week: \$10,990

STEWARDSHIP VERSE OF THE WEEK

Malachi 3:10

Bring the full tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. And thereby put me to the test, says the Lord of hosts, if I will not open the windows of heaven for you and pour down for you a blessing until there is no more need.