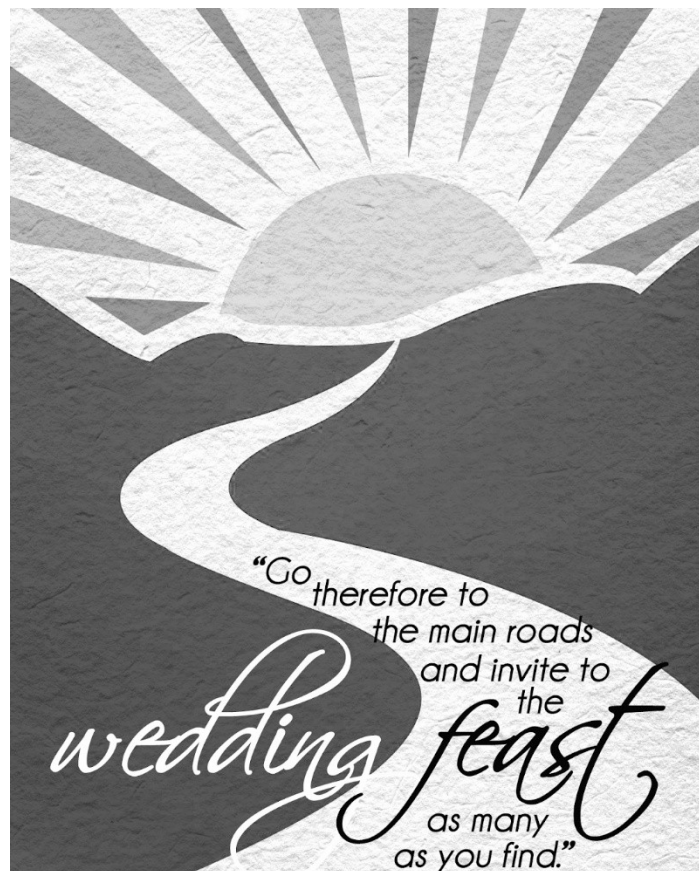




Family Praise & Worship

October 11, 2026

10:45 a.m.



Senior Pastor Kurt Hoover
Guest Preacher Kersten Stier
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

"So the Wedding Hall Was Filled with Guests"

Student Ministries Director Kersten Stier

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

Worship Through Song

Prayers of Intercession

Prayer of Confession & Forgiveness

Communion

The Lord's Prayer

Announcements

Benediction

Closing Song

FIRST LESSON, 1 Samuel 2:1-7 (ESV)

Reader: needed

¹ And Hannah prayed and said, "My heart exults in the Lord; my horn is exalted in the Lord. My mouth derides my enemies, because I rejoice in your salvation. ² "There is none holy like the Lord: for there is none besides you; there is no rock like our God.

³ Talk no more so very proudly, let not arrogance come from your mouth; for the Lord is a God of knowledge, and by him actions are weighed. ⁴ The bows of the mighty are

broken, but the feeble bind on strength. ⁵ Those who were full have hired themselves out for bread, but those who were hungry have ceased to hunger. The barren has borne seven, but she who has many children is forlorn. ⁶ The Lord kills and brings to life; he brings down to Sheol and raises up. ⁷ The Lord makes poor and makes rich; he brings low and he exalts.

SECOND LESSON, Matthew 22:1-14 (ESV)

¹ And again Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying, ² "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding feast for his son, ³ and sent his servants to call those who were invited to the wedding feast, but they would not come. ⁴ Again he sent other servants, saying, 'Tell those who are invited, "See, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready. Come to the wedding feast."' ⁵ But they paid no attention and went off, one to his farm, another to his business, ⁶ while the rest seized his servants, treated them shamefully, and killed them. ⁷ The king was angry, and he sent his troops and destroyed those murderers and burned their city. ⁸ Then he said to his servants, 'The wedding feast is ready, but those invited were not worthy. ⁹ Go therefore to the main roads and invite to the wedding feast as many as you find.' ¹⁰ And those servants went out into the roads and gathered all whom they found, both bad and good. So the wedding hall was filled with guests.

¹¹ "But when the king came in to look at the guests, he saw there a man who had no wedding garment. ¹² And he said to him, 'Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding garment?' And he was speechless. ¹³ Then the king said to the attendants, 'Bind him hand and foot and cast him into the outer darkness. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.' ¹⁴ For many are called, but few are chosen."



SENDING THE GOSPEL TO THE
Ends of the Earth



**Boxes will be available
in the Narthex on
October 11!**

**MESSIAH
LUTHERAN
CHURCH**

Candy donations are needed for Trunk-or-Treat! Be sure to mark your calendar for our annual Harvest Fest & Trunk-or-Treat on Friday, October 23 from 6-8 p.m. This year's event will be in collaboration with our partners at the YMCA, so we are expecting a lot of guests. If you wish to donate candy for this event, there is a bin in the Narthex. Thank you!

NEWS & OPPORTUNITIES TO GET INVOLVED

ADULT "INSIGHT" BIBLE STUDY

Our Sunday morning Bible Study for adults is at 9:40 in Fellowship Hall. Our newest series is entitled, "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 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.

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.

INTERVARSITY VISION CONFERENCE - Volunteers needed

InterVarsity's annual Vision Conference is November 6-8 at Messiah, and they are looking for volunteers to serve the college students in the name of Jesus. For more information, reach out to Leslie McFarland.

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 **October 27**. 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!

A variety of soups (and beverages) will be provided for our **October 13** luncheon as we celebrate "Autumn Fest," and we'll feature a presentation by the Joliet Historical Museum. We ask that everyone **sign up in the Narthex** so we have a headcount, and to let us know if you will bring finger food, appetizer, salad or dessert 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 October 20. 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 **October 20!**

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!

Our current series, "God Won't Leave You There: Joseph's Story," is an incredible testimony of jaw-dropping faith and patient perseverance in the face of devastating trials that will leave you in awe at what God can do in and through one person. It's a powerful reminder that wherever you find yourself, God is at work putting the pieces of your life together to bring about His sovereign plan.

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 p.m.

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

Join us for mid-week Bible Study, connect with peers, play games, sing praise and more! FAM meets on Wednesday evenings (Sept-April) from 6-8. Join us for family dinner beforehand, starting at 5 p.m.

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 p.m.

MAFIA NIGHTS - Attention 6th-12th graders!

Join us for 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.

BLOOD DRIVE AT MESSIAH!

Sunday, November 1

9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Sign up list/QR link can be found in the Narthex.

ALTAR FLOWERS

Altar flowers are provided by Lynn Tapella in loving memory of Henry Smeets.

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, October 11

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, October 12

n/a

Tuesday, October 13

10 a.m. Stay-n-Play
12 p.m. OWLS

Wednesday, October 14

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

Thursday, October 15

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

Friday, October 16

n/a

Saturday, October 17

9 a.m. Worship Team Rehearsal

Sunday, October 18

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: 95
10:45: 50
Online: 21
Insight: 30
K-5: 9
MSM: 2
HS: 3
Young Adult: 0
MKW: 6

2026 GIVING

Operating Budget: \$694,359
YTD Operating Budget: \$534,122
YTD Giving Received: \$421,958
Needed Each Week: \$13,353
Received Last Week: \$17,532

STEWARDSHIP VERSE **OF THE WEEK**

Lamentations 3:22-23

The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases,
his mercies never come to an end; they are
new every morning; great is your
faithfulness.

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

