MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH
CELEBRATING 125 YEARS

November 22, 2026

8:30 a.m.



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

40 Houbolt Rd.
Joliet, IL 60431

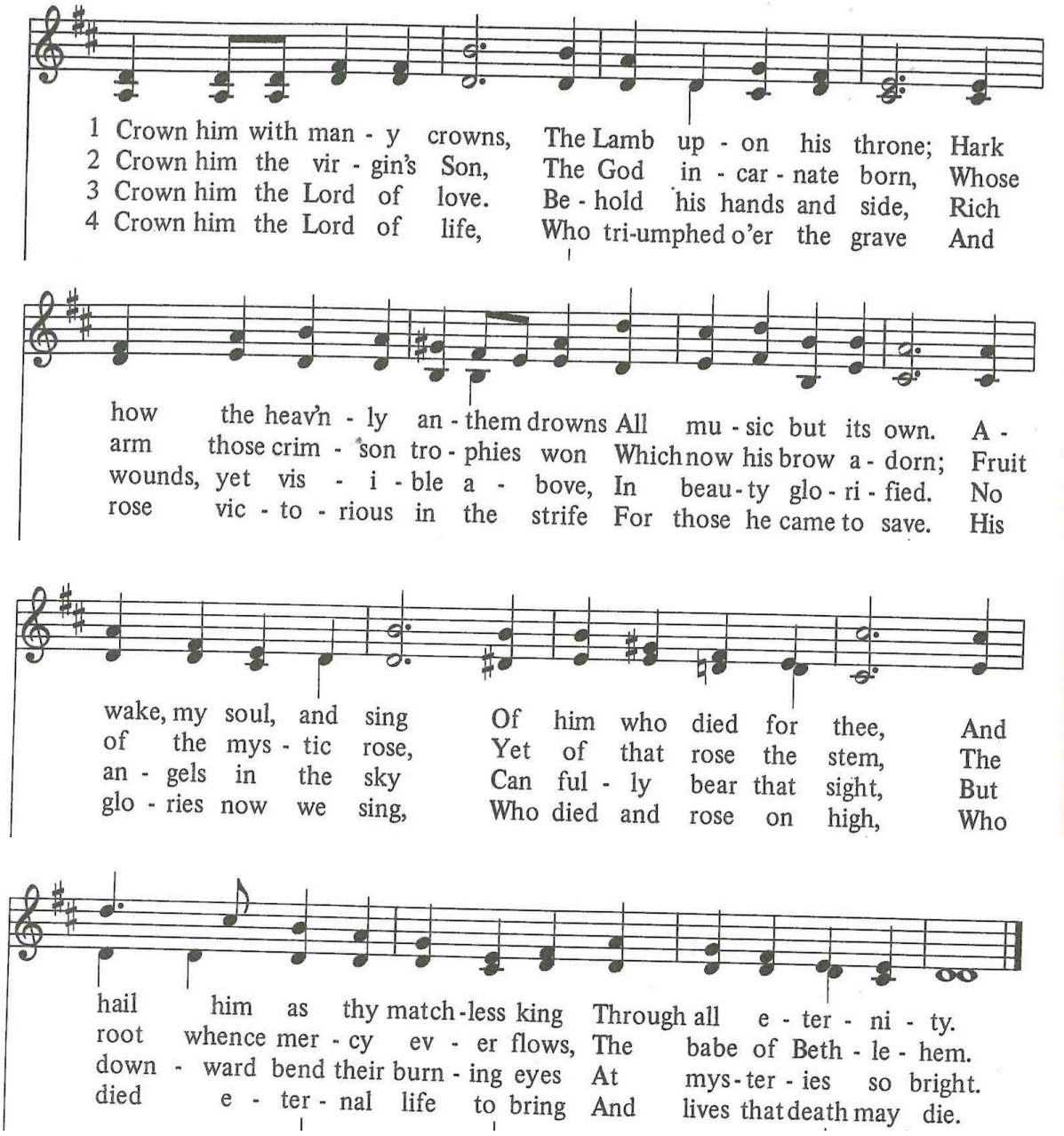
(815) 741-4488
www.mlcjoliet.org

Welcome to Messiah Lutheran Church
November 22, 2026 - 8:30 a.m.

Enter Reverently, Worship Joyfully, Live Faithfully

PRELUDE Rose Ann Sochan

OPENING HYMN "Crown Him with Many Crowns," #278 v. 1-4, *LCMS*



KINGDOM LITANY BASED ON PSALM 145

Leader: All your works shall give thanks to you, O Lord,
All: and all your saints shall bless you!
Leader: They shall speak of the glory of your kingdom
All: and tell of your power,
Leader: to make known to the children of man your mighty deeds,
All: and the glorious splendor of your kingdom.
Leader: Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom,
All: and your dominion endures throughout all generations.
Leader: We worship You Lord in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
All: Amen.

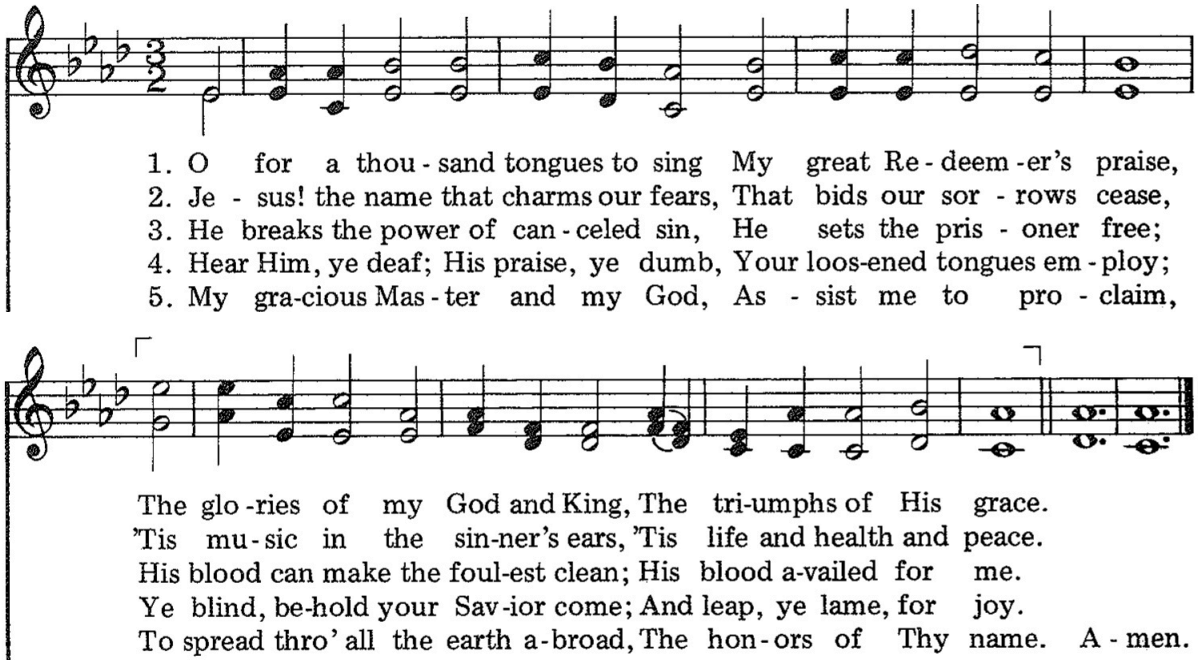
WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

SANCTUARY CHOIR ANTHEM

"At the Table of the Lord,"
arr. Jay Althouse, led by Herb Alexander

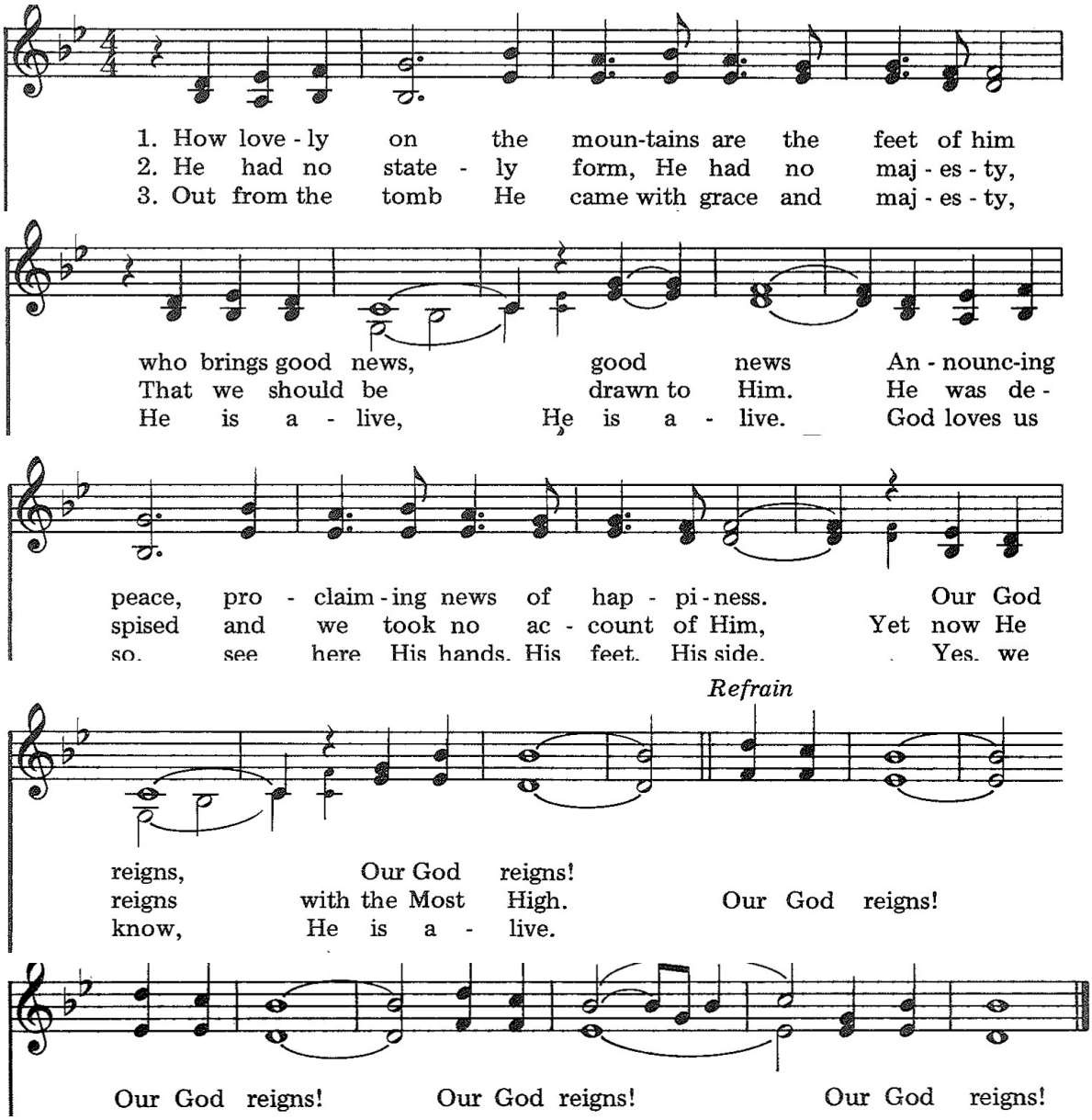
HYMN OF PRAISE

"O, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing," #76 v. 1-3





HYMN OF PRAISE "Our God Reigns," #229 v. 1-3



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.

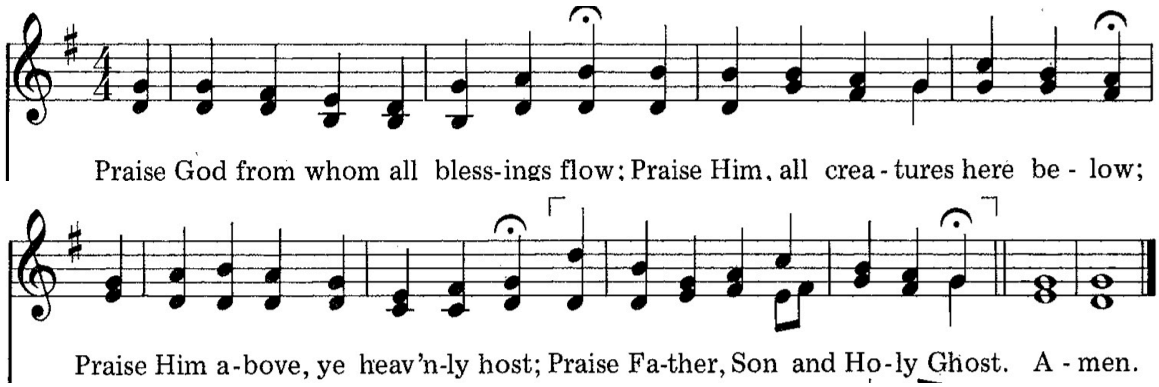
Leader: By the mercy of God we are united with Jesus Christ, and in Him we are forgiven. We rest now in His peace and rise every morning to serve Him. **Amen.**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE Pastor Kurt

OFFERING

OFFERTORY Rose Ann Sochan

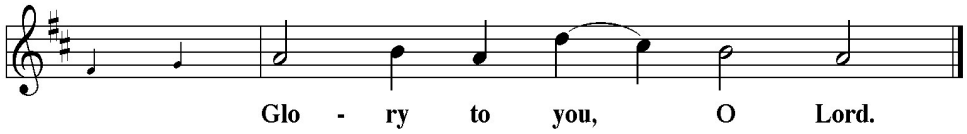
RESPONSE Doxology #625



FIRST LESSON, Daniel 7:13-14 (ESV) Reader: Paul Allen

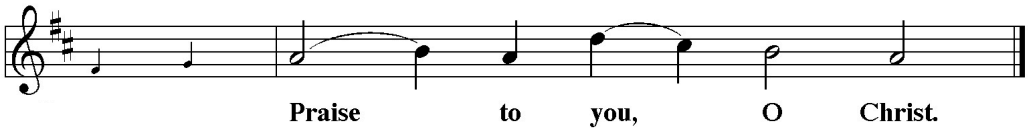
13 "I saw in the night visions, and behold, with the clouds of heaven there came one
like a son of man, and he came to the Ancient of Days and was presented before him.
14 And to him was given dominion and glory and a kingdom, that all peoples, nations,
and languages should serve him; his dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall
not pass away, and his kingdom one that shall not be destroyed.

SECOND LESSON, Matthew 25: 31-46 (ESV)



31 "When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will
sit on his glorious throne. 32 Before him will be gathered all the nations, and he will
separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats.
33 And he will place the sheep on his right, but the goats on the left. 34 Then the King
will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the
kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world. 35 For I was hungry and
you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you
welcomed me, 36 I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you visited me, I was
in prison and you came to me.' 37 Then the righteous will answer him, saying, 'Lord,
when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink? 38 And when
did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you? 39 And when
did we see you sick or in prison and visit you?' 40 And the King will answer them, 'Truly,
I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me.'

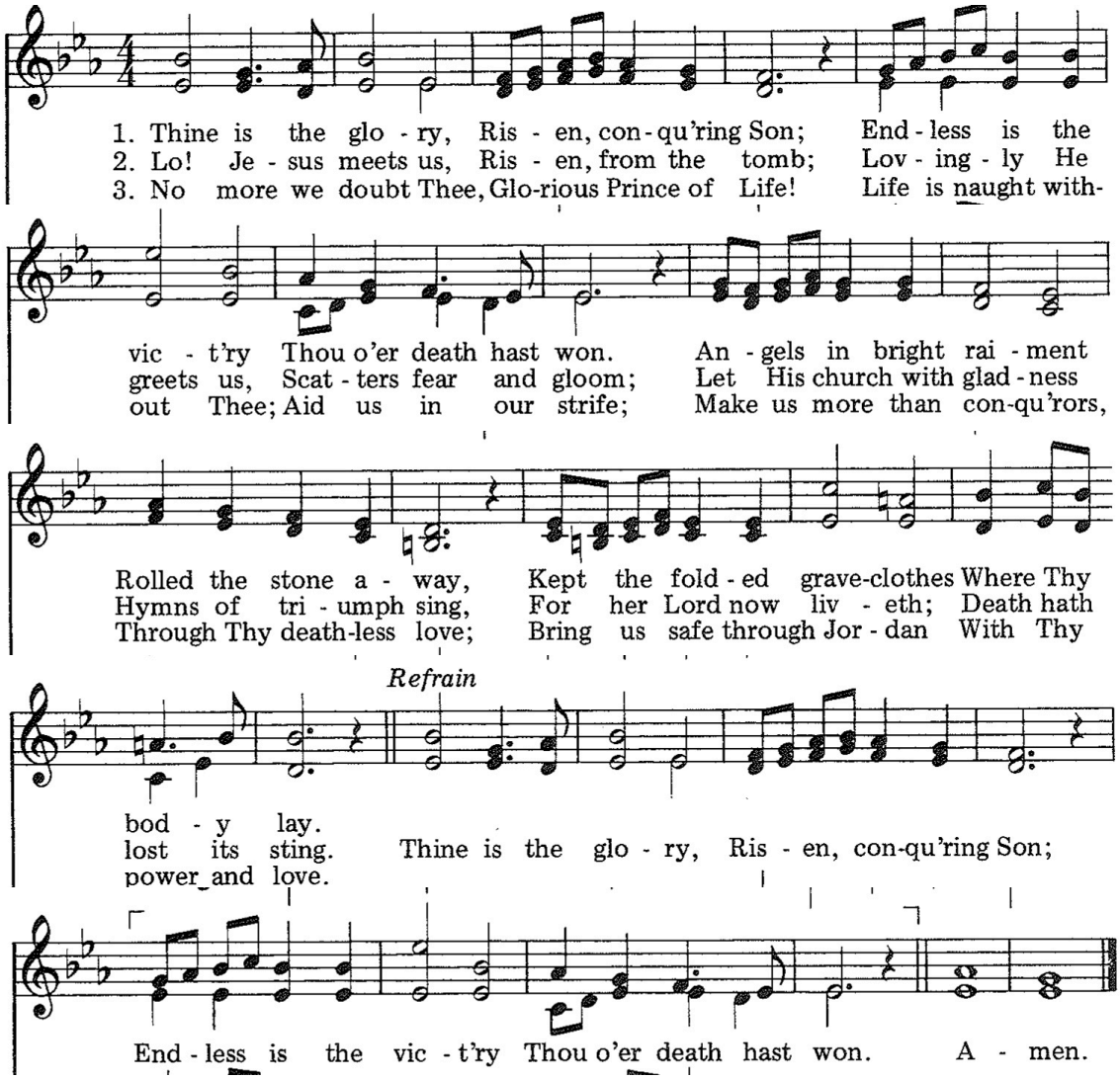
41 "Then he will say to those on his left, 'Depart from me, you cursed, into the eternal fire
prepared for the devil and his angels. 42 For I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was
thirsty and you gave me no drink, 43 I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked
and you did not clothe me, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.' 44 Then they also
will answer, saying, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked
or sick or in prison, and did not minister to you?' 45 Then he will answer them, saying,
'Truly, I say to you, as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to
me.' 46 And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal
life."



MESSAGE **"Kingdom Life: Salvation"**
Pastor Kurt Hoover

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

HYMN "Thine is the Glory," #227 v. 1-3



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.

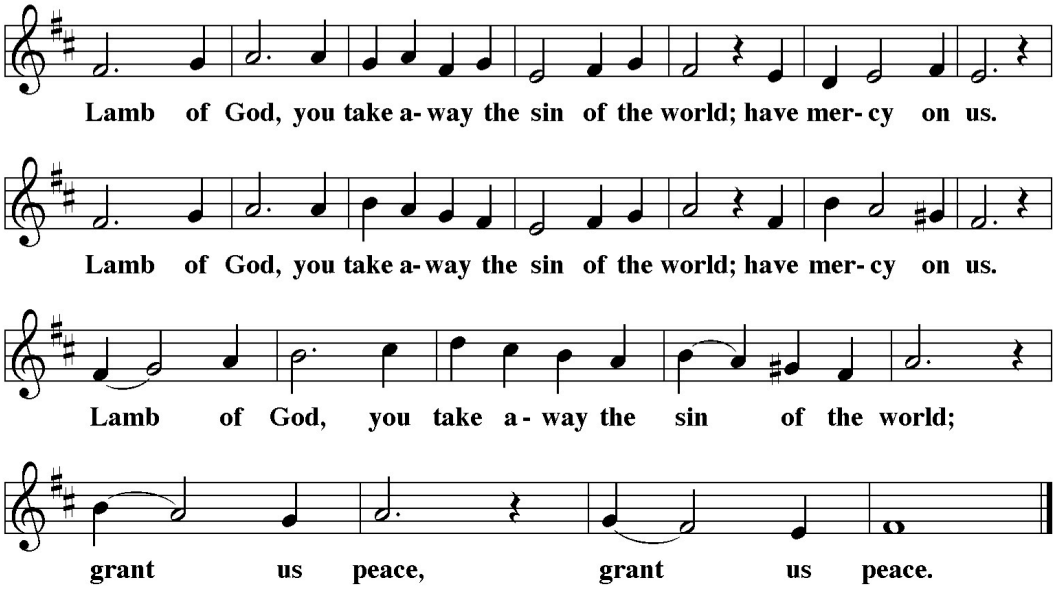
PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION
Servers: Jane Costello, Joy McClintock, Lynn Tapella

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

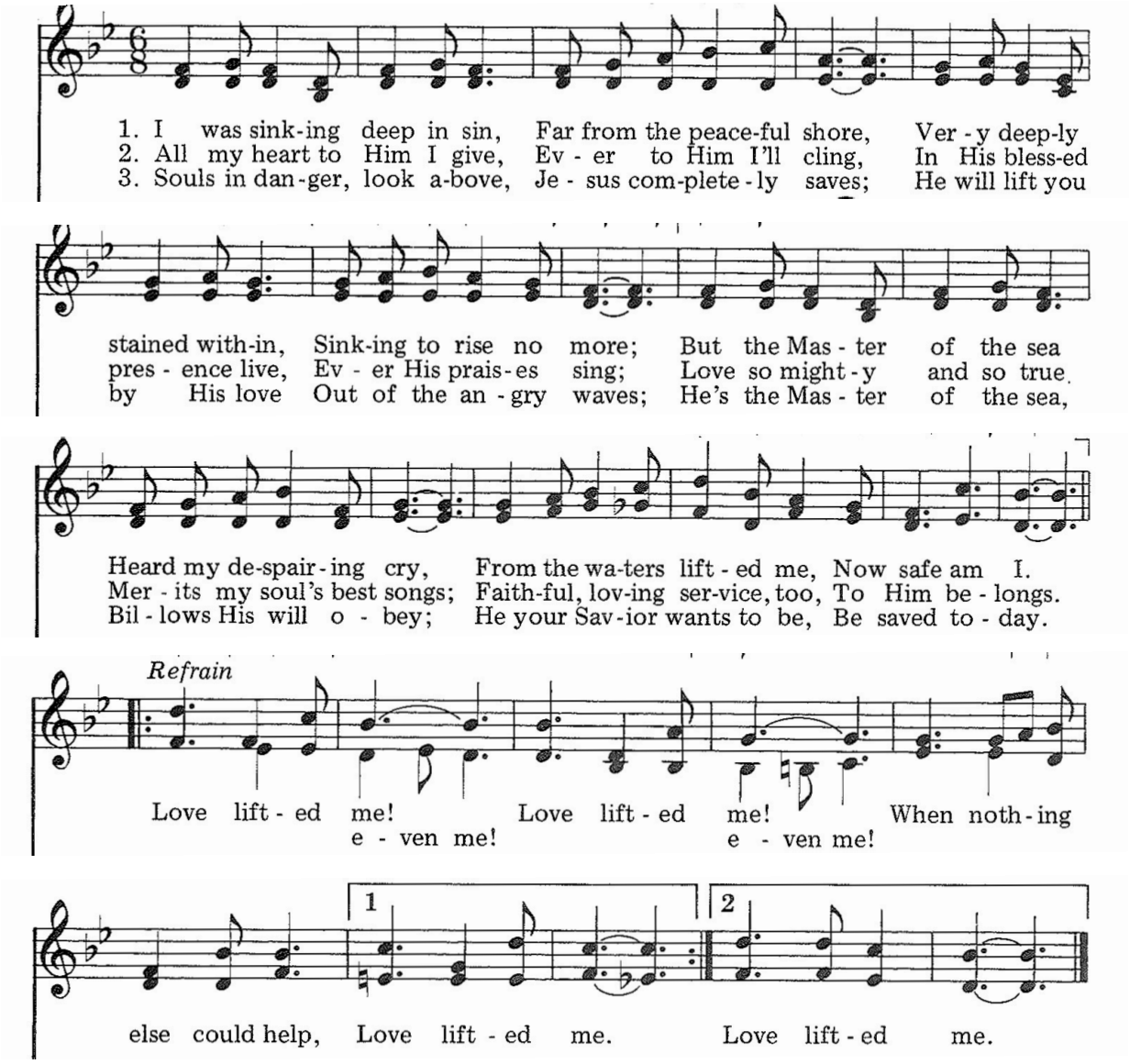
THE LORD'S PRAYER

HYMN "Lamb of God"

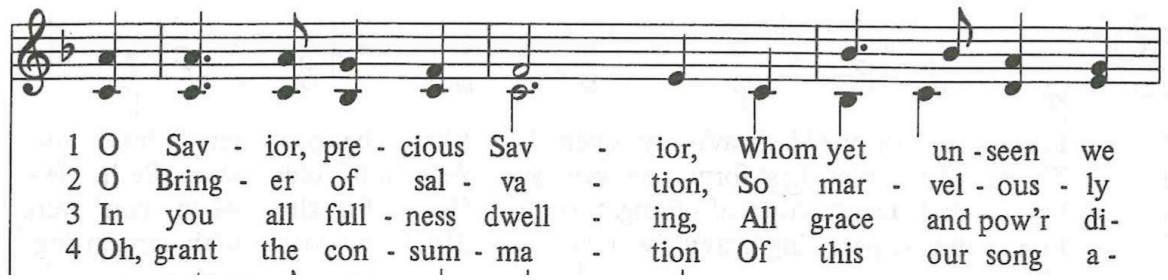


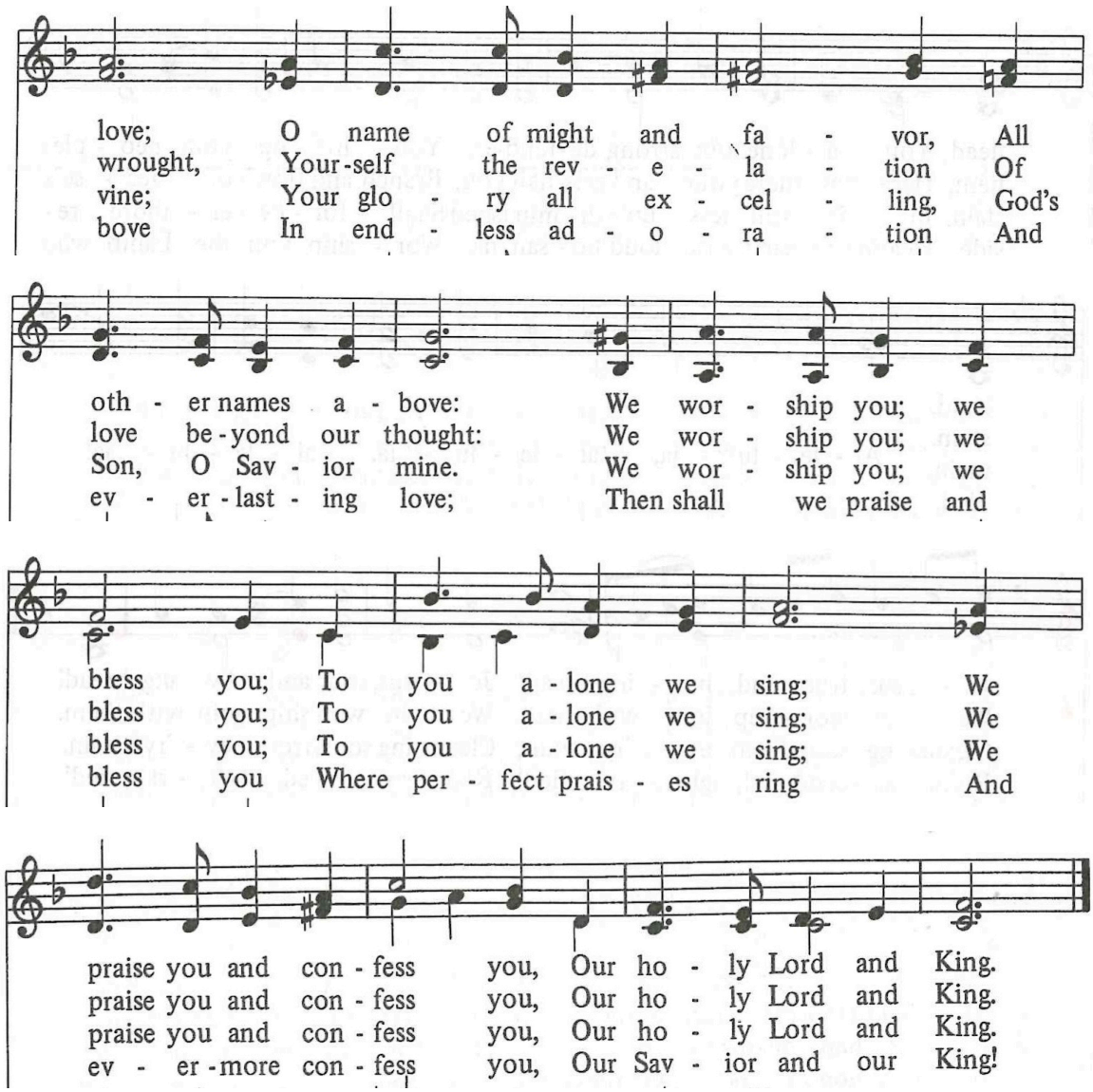


COMMUNION HYMNS "Love Lifted Me," #505



"O Saviour, Precious Saviour," #282, *LCMS*





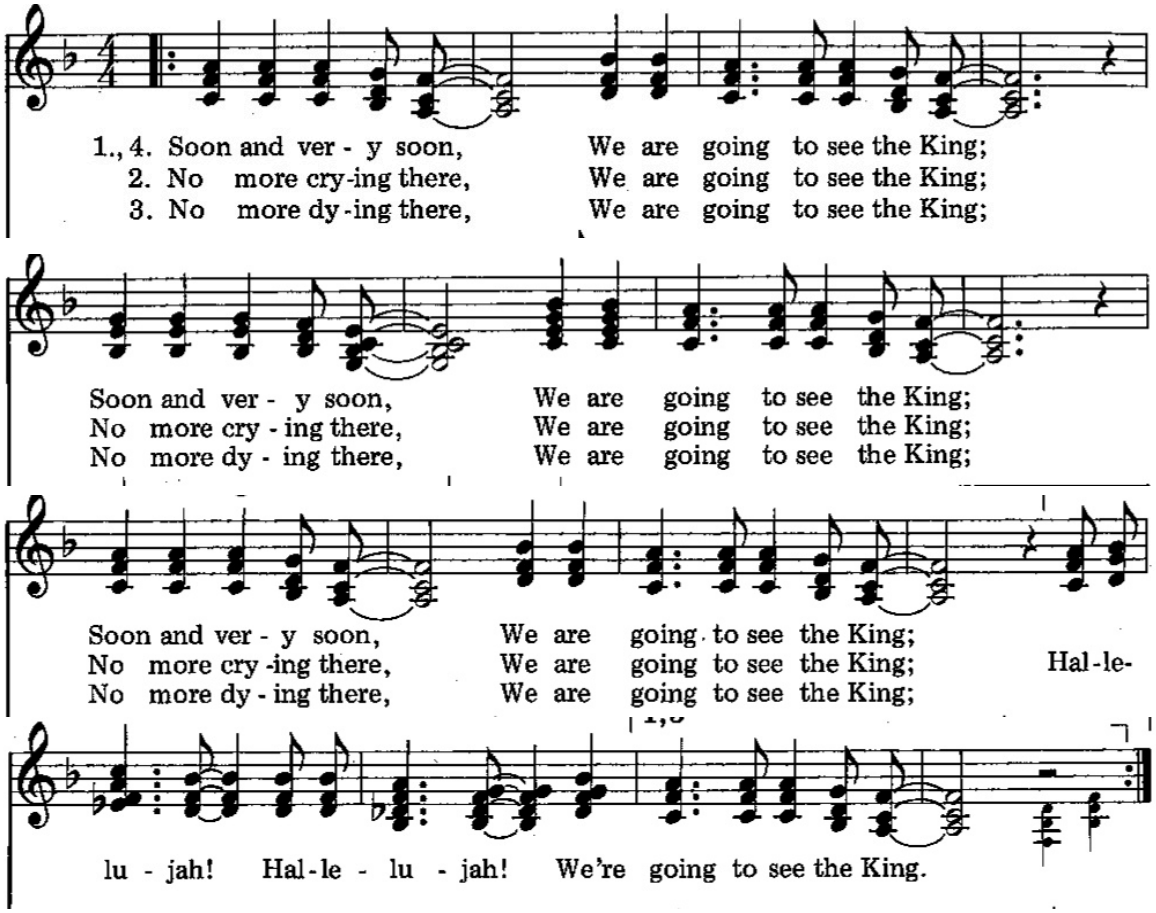
COMMUNION BLESSING

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 "Soon and Very Soon," #551 v. 1-3



POSTLUDE Rose Ann Sochan

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

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Messiah 125th Anniversary Christmas Ornaments are available for online purchase at **$5 each** or **two for $8** here:

Kathy Mueller will have them available in the Narthex between services on Sundays, November 29 through December 20. Cash & checks will also be accepted at that time.

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.

CHRISTMAS DECORATING AT MESSIAH

Volunteers are needed to decorate the Sanctuary to celebrate the birth of Jesus on Saturday, **November 28** at 9:30 a.m. We welcome families, children, youth, and adults! There is a job for everyone. A sign up list can be found in the Narthex so we can be sure to have enough hot cocoa and treats on hand for all!

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, except December. 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!



Ham dinner, and beverages will be provided for our **December 8** luncheon as we celebrate with a white elephant gift exchange and enjoy Christmas carols led by Jeanette Wegemer. 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 December 15. 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 **December 15**!

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
Ladies, 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
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!

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.



Thanksgiving pies are available for pickup **TODAY** from 8:30-12:30

Samaritan's Purse OPERATION Christmas Child

Thank You

Heartfelt thanks to all those who sponsored shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child! Messiah filled 87 boxes this year!





New time this year!



TO OUR NEW STAFF!

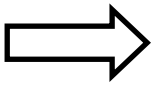
We are pleased to share that Angela Sahagun has accepted the position of Communications & Community Engagement Coordinator at Messiah. Angela is a recent graduate of Lewis University with a degree in public relations and advertising, where she developed a passion for storytelling and building meaningful connections. Angela looks forward to finding new ways to connect with, support, and give back to Messiah Lutheran Church and our commmunity!

Change of address:
We've been notified of a change of address for Lynn Jelm, who was included in our November Prayer Request Insert. Please correct Lynn's address to: 695 Vermillion St., Coal City, IL 60416

ALTAR FLOWERS

Altar flowers are provided by Kathy Mueller in loving memory of Evelyn Korth and Astrid & Leonard 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.



The **2027 Altar flower sign up list** in on the Greeter's table in the Narthex. Reserve your dates now!

THIS WEEK AT MESSIAH

Sunday, November 22
8:30-noon Thanksgiving Pie Pickup
8:30 a.m. Traditional Worship
9:40 a.m. Education Hour for All Ages
10:45 a.m. Family Praise & Worship
with Children's Choir
1 p.m. Cristo Rey Worship

Monday, November 23
n/a

Tuesday, November 24
n/a

Wednesday, November 25
7 p.m. Thanksgiving Eve Worship

Thursday, November 26
Thanksgiving Day
Church Office Closed

Friday, November 27
n/a

Saturday, November 28
9 a.m. Worship Team Rehearsal
9:30 a.m. Christmas Decorating

Sunday, November 29
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: 114
10:45: 63
Online: 15
Insight: 38
K-5: 10
MSM: 4
HS: 3
Young Adult: 0
MKW: 6

2026 GIVING

Operating Budget: $694,359
YTD Operating Budget: $614,241
YTD Giving Received: $506,003
Needed Each Week: $13,353
Received Last Week: $6,450

STEWARDSHIP VERSE OF THE WEEK

Luke 12:21
So is the one who lays up treasure for himself and is not rich toward God.

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